# LETTERS OF STATE,

Written by

## Mr. John Milton,

To moſt of the Sovereign Princes and Republicks of *EUROPE.*

From the Year 1649. Till the Year 1659.

To which is added, An Account of his Life. Together with ſeveral of his Poems; And a Catalogue of his Works, never before Printed.

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# TO THE

# READER.

*PRejudice over rules and ſways a World of People; and there is no queſtion but this Collection will meet with a great deal. There are ſome perhaps may cenſure it with an* Infandum Regina jubes— *Bigots to ſomething, but they know not what; nor is it in their Nature to examine the Reaſons of their Antipathy. For after the exacteſt Scrutiny that can be made, there is nothing to be met with in the following Sheets, not wreſted by Tyrannical* Innuendo's, *that can give the leaſt Offence; unleſs good Latin made good* Engliſh *be a*

*Crime. Here are no diſcuſſions, which of the Contending Parties were in the Right; no Juſtifications of the Proſperous, nor Concluſions from Succeſs. Here are only bare Matters of Fact, abſtracted from the Domeſtick Broils, and Civil Diſſentions of thoſe Times. It only appears from hence, that a Certain Party of People, having by Victory obtained the Supream Government of the Kingdom, took the Common Methods of Prudence and Policy to ſtrengthen themſelves abroad, by Leagues and Amities with Foreign Princes. Whatever they had done at home, they paid to all the* European *Monarchs and Potentates, that deference which became 'em: yet were they not ſo puſillanimouſly forward neither to court Forreign Friendſhip, or to conclude any Treaties but to the Advantage of the Nation, according to thoſe Maxims which they profeſſed; and how ſevere ſoever they were to thoſe they believed their Enemies within dors, both the one and*

*the*

*the other were moſt careful, not to ſuffer the Merchants to be abuſed abroad, if either Force or Interceſſion could prevail. Then, for the Honour of thoſe People, who had in thoſe times ſucceſſively Uſurp'd the Supream Authority of the Nation, nothing more plainly diſcovers it then the different Style of the enſuing Letters: for Mr.* Milton *is not to be thought to have Written his own Senſe, but what was dictated to him by his Superiours. The Language of the Long Parliament was more Imperious and downright;* Oliver's *Vein more full of Cants; and where he concluded with Threats, he began with Godly Expoſtulations. In the laſt place, to queſtion the Truth of thoſe Tranſactions to which theſe following Letters have Relation, would be a Soleciſm which Ignorance it ſelf would be aſhamed to own. The Dates, the Subſcriptions, Superſcriptions, render every thing Authentick. So that were it only for their Character of Truth which muſt*

*be allow'd 'em, that alone is ſufficient to recommend 'em to Poſterity: at leaſt to thoſe who may be ambitious to be the Engliſh* Thuanus's *of ſucceeding Ages, to whom the Verity of theſe Letters will be a uſeful Clue, ſo far as it reaches, to guide them through the Labyrinth of forgotten ſtory.* Hony Soit qui mal y pence.

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THE

# THE LIFE OF Mr. John Milton.

OF all the ſeveral parts of Hiſtory, that which ſets forth the Lives, and Commemorates the moſt remarkable Actions, Sayings, or Writings of Famous and Illuſtrious Perſons, whether in War or Peace; whether many together, or any one in particular, as it is not the leaſt uſeful in it ſelf, ſo it is in higheſt Vogue and Eſteem among the Studious and Reading part of Mankind. The moſt Eminent in this way of Hiſtory were among the Ancients, *Plutarch* and *Diogenes Laertius* of the *Greeks*; the firſt wrote the

Lives, for the moſt part, of the moſt Renowned Heroes and Warriours of the *Greeks* and *Romans*; the other the Lives of the Ancient *Greek* Philoſophers. And *Cornelius Nepos* (or as ſome will have it *Acmilius Probus*) of the *Latins*, who wrote the Lives of the moſt Illuſtrious *Greek* and *Roman* Generals. Among the Moderns, *Machiavel* a Noble *Florentine*, who Elegantly wrote the Life of *Caſtrucio Caſtracano*, Lord of *Luca*. And of our Nation, Sir *Fulk Grevil*, who wrote the Life of his moſt intimate Friend Sir *Philip Sidney*: Mr. *Thomas Stanly* of *Cumberlo-Green*, who made a moſt Elaborate improvement to the foreſaid *Laertius*, by adding to what he found in him, what by diligent ſearch and enquiry he Collected from other Authors of beſt Authority.

*Iſaac Walton*, who wrote the Lives of Sir *Henry Wotton*, Dr. *Donne*; and for his Divine Poems, the admired Mr. *George Herbert*. Laſtly, not to mention ſeveral other Biographers of conſiderable Note, the Great *Gaſſendus* of *France*, the worthy Celebrator of two no leſs worthy Subjects of his impartial Pen; *viz.* The Noble Philoſopher *Epicurus*, and the moſt politely Learned Virtuoſo of his Age, his Country-man, Monſieur *Peireſk*. And pitty it is the Perſon whoſe

whoſe memory we have here undertaken to perpetuate by recounting the moſt memorable Tranſactions of his Life, (though his Works ſufficiently recommend him to the World) finds not a well-informed Pen able to ſet him forth, equal with the beſt of thoſe here mentioned; for doubtleſs had his Fame been as much ſpread through *Europe*, in *Thuanus*'s time as now it is, and hath been for ſeveral Years, he had juſtly merited from that Great Hiſtorian, an Eulogy not inferiour to the higheſt, by him given to all the Learned and Ingenious that liv'd within the compaſs of his Hiſtory. For we may ſafely and juſtly affirm, that take him in all reſpects, for Acumen of Wit, Quickneſs of Apprehenſion, Sagacity of Judgement, Depth of Argument, and Elegancy of Style, as well in *Latin* as *Engliſh*, as well in Verſe as Proſe, he is ſcarce to be parallel'd by any the beſt of Writers our Nation hath in any Age brought forth. He was Born in *London*, in a Houſe in *Breadſtreet*, the Leaſe whereof, as I take it, but for certain it was a Houſe in *Breadſtreet*, became in time part of his Eſtate in the Year of our Lord, 1606. His Father *John Milton*, an Honeſt, Worthy, and Subſtantial Citizen of *London*, by Profeſſion a Scrivener, to which Profeſſion he vo-

luntarily betook himſelf, by the advice and aſſiſtance of an intimate Friend of his, Eminent in that Calling, upon his being caſt out by his Father, a bigotted *Roman Catholick*, for embracing, when Young, the Proteſtant Faith, and abjuring the Popiſh Tenets; for he is ſaid to have been Deſcended of an Ancient Family of the *Miltons*, of *Milton*, near *Abington* in *Oxfordſhire*; where they had been a long time ſeated, as appears by the Monuments ſtill to be ſeen in *Milton*-Church, till one of the Family having taken the wrong ſide, in the Conteſts between the Houſes of *York* and *Lancaſter*, was ſequeſtred of all his Eſtate, but what he held by his Wife. However, certain it is, that this Vocation he followed for many Years, at his ſaid Houſe in *Breadſtreet*, with ſucceſs ſuitable to his Induſtry, and prudent conduct of his Affairs; yet did he not ſo far quit his own Generous and Ingenious Inclinations, as to make himſelf wholly a Slave to the World; for he ſometimes found vacant hours to the Study (which he made his recreation) of the Noble Science of Muſick, in which he advanc'd to that perfection, that as I have been told, and as I take it, by our Author himſelf, he Compoſed an *In Nomine* of Forty Parts: for which he

was

was rewarded with a Gold Medal and Chain by a *Poliſh* Prince, to whom he preſented it. However, this is a truth not to be denied, that for ſeveral Songs of his Compoſition, after the way of theſe times, three or four of which are ſtill to be ſeen in Old *Wilby*'s ſet of Ayres, beſides ſome Compoſitions of his in *Ravenſcrofs* Pſalms, he gained the Reputation of a conſiderable Maſter in this moſt charming of all the Liberal Sciences: Yet all this while, he managed his Grand Affair of this World with ſuch Prudence and Diligence, that by the aſſiſtance of Divine Providence favouring his honeſt endeavours, he gained a Competent Eſtate, whereby he was enabled to make a handſom Proviſion both for the Education and Maintenance of his Children; for three he had, and no more, all by one Wife, *Sarah*, of the Family of the *Caſtons*, derived originally from *Wales*. A Woman of Incomparable Vertue and Goodneſs; *John* the Eldeſt, the Subject of our preſent Work. *Chriſtopher*, and an onely Daughter *Ann*; *Chriſtopher* being principally deſigned for the Study of the Common Law of *England*, was Entered Young a Student of the *Inner-Temple*, of which Houſe he lived to be an Ancient Bencher, and keeping cloſe to that Study and Profeſſion

all

all his Life-time, except in the time of the Civil Wars of *England*; when being a great favourer and assertor of the King's Cause, and Obnoxious to the Parliament's side, by acting to his utmost power against them, so long as he kept his Station at *Reading*; and after that Town was taken by the Parliament Forces, being forced to quit his House there, he steer'd his course according to the Motion of the King's Army.

But when the War was ended with Victory and Success to the Parliament Party, by the Valour of General *Fairfax*, and the Craft and Conduct of *Cromwell*; and his composition made by the help of his Brother's Interest, with the then prevailing Power; he betook himself again to his former Study and Profession, following Chamber-Practice every Term, yet came to no Advancement in the World in a long time, except some small Employ in the Town of *Ipswich*, where (and near it) he lived all the latter time of his Life. For he was a person of a modest quiet temper, preferring Justice and Vertue before all Worldly Pleasure or Grandeur: but in the beginning of the Reign of K. *James* the II. for his known Integrity and Ability in the Law, he was by some Persons of Quality recommended to the King,

King, and at a Call of Serjeants received the Coif, and the ſame day was Sworn one of the Barons of the Exchequer, and ſoon after made one of the Judges of the Common Pleas; but his Years and Indiſpoſition not well brooking the Fatigue of publick Imployment, he continued not long in either of theſe Stations, but having his *Quietus eſt*, retired to a Country Life, his Study and Devotion. *Ann*, the onely Daughter of the ſaid *John Milton* the Elder, had a conſiderable Dowry given her by her Father, in Marriage with *Edward Philips*, (the Son of *Edward Philips* of *Shrewsbury*,) who coming up Young to Town, was bred up in the Crown-Office in Chancery, and at length came to be Secondary of the Office under Old Mr. *Bembo*; by him ſhe had, beſides other Children that dyed Infants, two Sons yet ſurviving, of whom more hereafter; and by a ſecond Husband, Mr. *Thomas Agar*, who (upon the Death of his Intimate Friend Mr. *Philips*) worthily Succeeded in the place, which except ſome time of Excluſion before and during the *Interregnum*, he held for many Years, and left it to Mr. *Thomas Milton* (the Son of the aforementioned Sir *Chriſtopher*) who at this day executes it with great Reputation and Ability. Two Daughters,

*Mary*

*Mary* who died very Young, and *Ann* yet surviving.

But to haſten back to our matter in hand; *John* our Author, who was deſtin'd to be the Ornament and Glory of his Countrey, was ſent, together with his Brother, to *Paul*'s School, whereof Dr. *Gill* the Elder was then Chief Maſter; where he was enter'd into the firſt Rudiments of Learning, and advanced therein with that admirable Succeſs, not more by the Diſcipline of the School and good Inſtructions of his Maſters, (for that he had another Maſter poſſibly at his Father's houſe, appears by the Fourth Elegy of his Latin Poems written in his 18th year, to *Thomas Young* Paſtor of the *Engliſh* Company of Merchants at *Hamborough*, wherein he owns and ſtiles him his Maſter) than by his own happy Genius, prompt Wit and Apprehenſion, and inſuperable Induſtry; for he generally ſate up half the Night, as well in voluntary Improvements of his own choice, as the exact perfecting of his School-Exerciſes: So that at the Age of 15 he was full ripe for Academick Learning, and accordingly was ſent to the Univerſity of *Cambridge*; where in *Chriſt's College*, under the Tuition of a very Eminent Learned man, whoſe Name I cannot call to mind, he

Studied

Studied Seven years, and took his Degree of Maſter of Arts; and for the extraordinary Wit and Reading he had ſhown in his Performances to attain his Degree, ( ſome whereof ſpoken at a Vacation-Exerciſe in his 19th. year of Age, are to be yet ſeen in his Miſcellaneous Poems ) he was lov'd and admir'd by the whole Univerſity, particularly by the Fellows and moſt Ingenious Perſons of his Houſe. Among the reſt there was a Young Gentleman, one Mr. *King*, with whom, for his great Learning and Parts, he had contracted a particular Friendſhip and Intimacy; whoſe death ( for he was drown'd on the *Iriſh* Seas in his paſſage from *Cheſter* to *Ireland* ) he bewails in that moſt excellent Monody in his forementioned Poems) Intituled *Lycidas*. Never was the loſs of Friend ſo Elegantly lamented; and among the reſt of his Juvenile Poems, ſome he wrote at the Age of 15, which contain a Poetical Genius ſcarce to be parallel'd by any *Engliſh* Writer. Soon after he had taken his Maſter's Degree, he thought fit to leave the Univerſity: Not upon any diſguſt or diſcontent for want of Preferment, as ſome Ill-willers have reported; nor upon any cauſe whatſoever forc'd to flie, as his Detractors malicioufly feign; but from which aſperſion he ſufficiently clears

clears himſelf in his Second Anſwer to *Alexander Morus*, the Author of a Book call'd, *Clamor Regii Sanguinis ad Cælum*, the chief of his Calumniators; in which he plainly makes it out, that after his leaving the Univerſity, to the no ſmall trouble of his Fellow-Collegiates, who in general regretted his Abſence, he for the ſpace of Five years lived for the moſt part with his Father and Mother at their houſe at *Horton* near *Colebrook* in *Barkſhire*; whither his Father, having got an Eſtate to his content, and left off all buſineſs, was retir'd from the Cares and Fatigues of the world. After the ſaid term of Five years, his Mother then dying, he was willing to add to his acquired Learning the obſervation of Foreign Cuſtoms, Manners, and Inſtitutions; and thereupon took a reſolution to Travel, more eſpecially deſigning for *Italy*; and accordingly, with his Father's Conſent and Aſſiſtance, he put himſelf into an Equipage ſuitable to ſuch a Deſign; and ſo intending to go by the way of *France*, he ſet out for *Paris* accompanied onely with one Man, who attended him through all his Travels; for his Prudence was his Guide, and his Learning his Introduction and Preſentation to Perſons of moſt Eminent Quality. However, he had alſo a moſt Civil and Obliging

Letter

Letter of Direction and Advice from Sir *Henry Wootton* then Provoſt of *Eaton*, and formerly Reſident Embaſſador from King *James* the Firſt to the State of *Venice*; which Letter is to be ſeen in the Firſt Edition of his Miſcellaneous Poems. At *Paris* being Recommended by the ſaid Sir *Henry* and other Perſons of Quality, he went firſt to wait upon my Lord *Scudamore*, then Embaſſador in *France* from King *Charles* the Firſt. My Lord receiv'd him with wonderful Civility; and underſtanding he had a deſire to make a Viſit to the great *Hugo Grotius*, he ſent ſeveral of his Attendants to wait upon him, and to preſent him in his Name to that Renowned Doctor and Stateſman, who was at that time Embaſſador from *Chriſtina* Queen of *Sweden*, to the *French* King. *Grotius* took the Viſit kindly, and gave him Entertainment ſuitable to his Worth, and the high Commendations he had heard of him. After a few days, not intending to make the uſual Tour of *France*, he took his leave of my Lord, who at his departure from *Paris*, gave him Letters to the *Engliſh* Merchants reſiding in any part through which he was to Travel, in which they were requeſted to ſhew him all the Kindneſs, and do him all the Good Offices that lay in their Power.

From

From *Paris* he haſtened on his Journey to *Nicæa*, where he took Shipping, and in a ſhort ſpace arrived at *Genoa*; from whence he went to *Legborn*, thence to *Piſa*, and ſo to *Florence*: In this City he met with many charming Objects, which Invited him to ſtay a longer time then he intended; the pleaſant Scituation of the Place, the Nobleneſs of the Structures, the exact Humanity and Civility of the Inhabitants, the more Polite and Refined ſort of Language there, than elſewhere. During the time of his ſtay here, which was about Two Months, he Viſited all the private Academies of the City, which are Places eſtabliſh'd for the improvement of Wit and Learning, and maintained a Correſpondence and perpetual Friendſhip among Gentlemen fitly qualified for ſuch an Inſtitution: and ſuch ſort of Academies there are in all or moſt of the moſt noted Cities in *Italy*. Viſiting theſe Places, he was ſoon taken notice of by the moſt Learned and Ingenious of the Nobility, and the Grand Wits of *Florence*, who careſs'd him with all the Honours and Civilities imaginable, particularly *Jacobo Gaddi*, *Carolo Dati*, *Antonio Francini*, *Freſcobaldo*, *Cultelino*, *Banmatthei* and *Clementillo*: Whereof *Gaddi* hath a large Elegant *Italian Canzonet* in his Praiſe:

*Dati*,

*Dati*, a Latin Epiſtle; both Printed before his Latin Poems, together with a Latin Diſtich of the Marqueſs of *Villa*, and another of *Selvaggi*, and a Latin *Tetraſtick* of *Giovanni Salſilli* a *Roman*.

From *Florence* he took his Journey to *Siena*, from thence to *Rome*; where he was detain'd much about the ſame time he had been at *Florence*; as well by his deſire of ſeeing all the Rarities and Antiquities of that moſt Glorious and Renowned City, as by the Converſation of *Lucas Holſtenius*, and other Learned and Ingenious men; who highly valued his Acquaintance, and treated him with all poſſible Reſpect.

From *Rome* he Travelled to *Naples*, where he was introduced by a certain Hermite, who accompanied him in his Journey from *Rome* thither, into the Knowledge of *Giovanni Baptiſta Manſo*, Marqueſs of *Villa*, a *Neapolitan* by Birth, a Perſon of high Nobility, Vertue, and Honour, to whom the famous *Italian* Poet, *Torquato Taſſo*, Wrote his Treatiſe *de Amicitia*; and moreover mentions him with great Honour in that Illuſtrious Poem of his, Intituled, *Gieruemme Liberata*: This Noble Marqueſs received him with extraordinary Reſpect and Civility, and went with him himſelf to give him a ſight of all that was of Note

and

and Remark in the City, particularly the Viceroys Palace, and was often in Perſon to Viſit him at his Lodging. Moreover, this Noble Marqueſs honoured him ſo far, as to make a Latin Diſtich in his Praiſe, as hath been already mentiontd; which being no leſs pithy then ſhort, though already in Print, it will not be unworth the while here to repeat.

*Ut Mens, Forma, Decor, Facies, ſi* Pietas, ſic,*
*Non Anglus Verum Hercle Angelus ipſe foret.*

In return of this Honour, and in gratitude for the many Favours and Civilities received of him, he preſented him at his departure with a large Latin Eclogue, Intituled, *Manſus*, afterward's Publiſhed among his Latin Poems. The Marqueſs at his taking leave of him gave him this Complement, That he would have done him many more Offices of Kindneſs and Civility, but was therefore rendered incapable in regard he had been over-liberal in his ſpeech againſt the Religion of the Country.

* This word relates to his being a Proteſtant not a *Roman*-Catholick.

He

He had entertain'd ſome thoughts of paſſing over into *Sicily* and *Greece*, but was diverted by the News he receiv'd from *England*, that Affairs there were tending towards a Civil War; thinking it a thing unworthy in him to be taking his Pleaſure in Foreign Parts, while his Countreymen at home were Fighting for their Liberty: But firſt reſolv'd to ſee *Rome* once more; and though the Merchants gave him a caution that the Jeſuits were hatching deſigns againſt him, in caſe he ſhould return thither, by reaſon of the freedom he took in all his diſcourſes of Religion; nevertheleſs he ventured to proſecute his Reſolution, and to *Rome* the ſecond time he went, determining with himſelf not induſtriouſly to begin to fall into any Diſcourſe about Religion; but, being ask'd, not to deny or endeavour to conceal his own Sentiments; Two Months he ſtaid at *Rome*; and in all that time never flinch'd, but was ready to defend the Orthodox Faith againſt all Oppoſers; and ſo well he ſucceeded therein, that Good Providence guarding him, he went ſafe from *Rome* back to *Florence*, where his return to his Friends of that City was welcomed with as much Joy and Affection, as had it been to his Friends and Relations in his own Countrey, he could not

have

have come a more joyful and welcome Gueſt. Here, having ſtaid as long as at his firſt coming, excepting an excurſion of a few days to *Luca*, croſſing the *Apennine*, and paſſing through *Bononia* and *Ferrara*, he arriv'd at *Venice*, where when he had ſpent a Month's time in viewing of that Stately City, and Shipp'd up a Parcel of curious and rare Books which he had pick'd up in his Travels; particularly a Cheſt or two of choice Muſick-books of the beſt Maſters flouriſhing about that time in *Italy*, namely, *Luca Marenzo*, *Monte Verde*, *Horatio Vecchi*, *Ciſa*, the Prince of *Venoſa* and ſeveral others, he took his courſe through *Verona*, *Milan*, and the *Pœnine Alps*, and ſo by the Lake *Leman* to *Geneva*, where he ſtaid for ſome time, and had daily converſe with the moſt Learned *Giovanni Deodati*, Theology-Profeſſor in that City, and ſo returning through *France*, by the ſame way he had paſſed it going to *Italy*, he, after a Peregrination of one compleat Year and about Three Months, arrived ſafe in *England*, about the time of the Kings making his ſecond Expedition againſt the *Scots*. Soon after his return, and viſits paid to his Father and other Friends, he took him a Lodging in S:. *Brides* Church-yard, at the Houſe of one *Ruſſel* a Taylor, where he

he first undertook the Education and Instruction of his Sister's two Sons, the Younger whereof had been wholly committed to his Charge and Care. And here by the way, I judge it not impertinent to mention the many Authors both of the Latin and Greek, which through his excellent judgment and way of Teaching, far above the Pedantry of common publick Schools (where such Authors are scarce ever heard of) were run over within no greater compass of time, then from Ten to Fifteen or Sixteen Years of Age. Of the Latin the four Grand Authors, *De Re Rustica*, *Cato*, *Varro*, *Columella*, and *Palladius*; *Cornelius Celsus*, an Ancient Physician of the *Romans*; a great part of *Pliny's* Natural History, *Vitruvius* his Architecture, *Frontinus* his Stratagems, with the two Egregious Poets, *Lucretius*, and *Manilius*. Of the Greek; *Hesiod*, a Poet equal with *Homer*; *Aratus* his *Phænomena*, and *Dioscemeia*, *Dionysius Afer de situ Orbis*, *Oppian's Cynegeticks & Halieuticks*. *Quintus Calaber* his Poem of the *Trojan* War, continued from *Homer*; *Apollonius*, *Rhodius* his Argonuticks, and in Prose, *Plutarch's Placita Philosophorum* & Περι Παιδων Αγωγης, *Geminus's* Astronomy; *Xenophon's Cyri Institutio & Anabasis*, *Aelians Tacticks*, and *Polyænus* his Warlike Stratagems;

gems; thus by teaching he in ſome meaſure increaſed his own knowledge, having the reading of all theſe Authors as it were by Proxy; and all this might poſſibly have conduced to the preſerving of his Eye-ſight, had he not, moreover, been perpetually buſied in his own Laborious Undertakings of the Book or Pen. Nor did the time thus Studiouſly imployed in conquering the *Greek* and *Latin* Tongues, hinder the attaining to the chief Oriental Languages, *viz.* The *Hebrew*, *Caldee* and *Syriac*, ſo far as to go through the *Pentateuch*, or Five Books of *Moſes* in *Hebrew*, to make a good entrance into the *Targum* or *Chaldee* Paraphraſe, and to underſtand ſeveral Chapters of St. *Matthew* in the *Syriac* Teſtament, beſides an Introduction into ſeveral Arts and Sciences, by Reading *Urſtiſius* his Arithmetick, *Riffs* Geometry, *Petiſcus* his Trigonometry, *Joannes de Sacro Boſco de Sphæra*; and into the *Italian* and *French* Tongues, by reading in *Italian*, *Giovan Villani's* Hiſtory of the Tranſactions between ſeveral petty States of *Italy*; and in *French* a great part of *Pierre Davity*, the famous Geographer of *France* in his time. The *Sunday's* work was for the moſt part the Reading each day a Chapter of the *Greek* Teſtament, and hearing his Learned Expoſition

poſition upon the ſame, (and how this ſavoured of Atheiſm in him, I leave to the courteous Backbiter to judge). The next work after this, was the writing from his own dictation, ſome part, from time to time, of a Tractate which he thought fit to collect from the ableſt of Divines, who had written of that Subject; *Ameſius*, *Wollebius*, &c. *viz.* A perfect Syſtem of Divinity, of which more hereafter. Now perſons ſo far Manuducted into the higheſt paths of Literature both Divine and Human, had they received his documents with the ſame Acuteneſs of Wit and Apprehenſion, the ſame Induſtry, Alacrity, and Thirſt after Knowledge, as the Inſtructer was indued with, what Prodigies of Wit and Learning might they have proved! the Scholars might in ſome degree have come near to the equalling of the Maſter, or at leaſt have in ſome ſort made good what he ſeems to predict in the cloſe of an Elegy he made in the Seventeenth Year of his Age, upon the Death of one of his Siſter's Children (a Daughter) who died in her Infancy.

*Then thou the Mother of ſo ſweet a Child,*
*Her falſe Imagin'd Loſs ceaſe to Lament,*
*And Wiſely learn to curb thy Sorrows Wild;*
*This if thou do, he will an Offspring give,*
*That to the Worlds laſt end, ſhall make thy*
*(Name to live.*

But to return to the Thread of our Diſcourſe; he made no long ſtay in his Lodgings in St. *Brides* Church-yard; neceſſity of having a place to diſpoſe his Books in, and other Goods fit for the furniſhing of a good handſome Houſe, haſtning him to take one; and accordingly a pretty Garden-Houſe he took in *Alderſgate*-Street, at the end of an Entry; and therefore the fitter for his turn, by the reaſon of the Privacy, beſides that there are few Streets in *London* more free from Noiſe then that.

Here firſt it was that his Academick Erudition was put in practice, and Vigorouſly proceeded, he himſelf giving an Example to thoſe under him, (for it was not long after his taking this Houſe, e're his Elder Nephew was put to Board with him alſo) of hard Study, and ſpare Diet; only this advantage he had, that once in three Weeks or a Month, he would drop into the Society of ſome Young Sparks of his Acquaintance, the chief whereof were

were Mr. *Alphry*, and Mr. *Miller*, two Gentlemen of *Gray*'s-Inn, the *Beau*'s of thoſe Times, but nothing near ſo bad as thoſe now-a-days; with theſe Gentlemen he would ſo far make bold with his Body, as now and then to keep a Gawdy-day.

In this Houſe he continued ſeveral Years, in the one or two firſt whereof, he ſet out ſeveral Treatiſes, *viz.* That of *Reformation*; that againſt *Prelatical Epiſcopacy*; The *Reaſon of Church-Government*; The *Defence of Smectimnuus*, at leaſt the greateſt part of them, but as I take it, all; and ſome time after, one Sheet of Education, which he Dedicated to Mr. *Samuel Hartlib*, he that wrote ſo much of Husbandry; this Sheet is Printed at the end of the Second Edition of his Poems; and laſtly, *Areopagitica*. During the time alſo of his continuance in this Houſe, there fell out ſeveral Occaſions of the Increaſing of his Family. His Father, who till the taking of *Reading* by the Earl of *Eſſex* his Forces, had lived with his other Son at his Houſe there, was upon that Son's diſſettlement neceſſitated to betake himſelf to this his Eldeſt Son, with whom he lived for ſome Years, even to his Dying Day. In the next place he had an Addition of ſome Scholars; to which may be added, his

entring into Matrimony; but he had his Wife's company so small a time, that he may well be said to have become a single man again soon after. About *Whitsuntide* it was, or a little after, that he took a Journey into the Country; no body about him certainly knowing the Reason, or that it was any more than a Journey of Recreation: after a Month's stay, home he returns a Married-man, that went out a Batchelor; his Wife being *Mary* the Eldest Daughter of Mr. *Richard Powell*, then a Justice of Peace, of *Forrestbil*, near *Shotover* in *Oxfordshire*; some few of her neerest Relations accompanying the Bride to her new Habitation; which by reason the Father nor any body else were yet come, was able to receive them; where the Feasting held for some days in Celebration of the Nuptials, and for entertainment of the Bride's Friends. At length they took their leave, and returning to *Forrestbill*, left the Sister behind; probably not much to her satisfaction; as appeared by the Sequel; by that time she had for a Month or thereabout led a Philosophical Life, (after having been used to a great House, and much Company and Joviality) Her Friends, possibly incited by her own desire, made earnest suit by Letter, to have her Com-

pany

pany the remaining part of the Summer, which was granted, on condition of her return at the time appointed, *Michalemas*, or thereabout: In the mean time came his Father, and ſome of the foremention'd Diſciples. And now the Studies went on with ſo much the more Vigour, as there were more Hands and Heads employ'd; the Old Gentleman living wholly retired to his Reſt and Devotion, without the leaſt trouble imaginable: Our Author, now as it were a ſingle man again, made it his chief diverſion now and then in an Evening to viſit the Lady *Margaret Lee*, Daughter to the ——— *Lee*, Earl of *Marlborough*, Lord High Treaſurer of *England*, and Preſident of the Privy Councel to King *James* the Firſt. This Lady being a Woman of great Wit and Ingenuity, had a particular Honour for him, and took much delight in his Company, as likewiſe her Husband Captain *Hobſon*, a very Accompliſh'd Gentleman; and what Eſteem he at the ſame time had for Her, appears by a Sonnet he made in praiſe of her, to be ſeen among his other Sonnets in his Extant Poems. *Michalemas* being come, and no news of his Wife's return, he ſent for her by Letter, and receiving no anſwer, ſent ſeveral other Letters, which were alſo unanſwered; ſo

that at laſt he diſpatch'd down a Foot-Meſſenger with a Letter, deſiring her return; but the Meſſenger came back not only without an anſwer, at leaſt a ſatisfactory one, but to the beſt of my remembrance, reported that he was diſmiſſed with ſome ſort of Contempt; this proceeding, in all probability, was grounded upon no other Cauſe but this, namely, That the Family being generally addicted to the Cavalier Party, as they called it, and ſome of them poſſibly ingaged in the King's Service, who by this time had his Head Quarters at *Oxford*, and was in ſome Proſpect of Succeſs, they began to repent them of having Matched the Eldeſt Daughter of the Family to a Perſon ſo contrary to them in Opinion; and thought it would be a blot in their Eſcutcheon, when ever that Court ſhould come to Flouriſh again; however, it ſo incenſed our Author, that he thought it would be diſhonourable ever to receive her again, after ſuch a repulſe; ſo that he forthwith prepared to Fortify himſelf with Arguments for ſuch a Reſolution, and accordingly wrote two Treatiſes, by which he undertook to maintain, That it was againſt Reaſon (and the enjoynment of it not proveable by Scripture) for any Married Couple diſagreeable

in

in Humour and Temper, or having an averſion to each, to be forc'd to live yok'd togethet all their Days. The firſt was, His Doctrine and Diſcipline of Divorce; of which there was Printed a Second Edition, with ſome Additions. The other in proſecution of the firſt, was ſtyled, *Tetrachordon.* Then the better to confirm his own Opinion, by the atteſtation of others, he ſet out a Piece called the Judgement of *Martin Bucer*, a Proteſtant Miniſter, being a Tranſlation, out of that Reverend Divine, of ſome part of his Works, exactly agreeing with him in Sentiment. Laſtly, he wrote in anſwer to a Pragmatical Clerk, who would needs give himſelf the Honour of Writing againſt ſo great a Man, His Colaſterion or Rod of Correction for a Sawcy Impertinent. Not very long after the ſetting forth of theſe Treatiſes, having application made to him by ſeveral Gentlemen of his acquaintance, for the Education of their Sons, as underſtanding haply the Progreſs he had infixed by his firſt undertakings of that nature, he laid out for a larger Houſe, and ſoon found it out; but in the interim before he removed, there fell out a paſſage, which though it altered not the whole Courſe he was going to Steer, yet it put a

ſtop or rather an end to a grand Affair, which was more than probably thought to be then in agitation: It was indeed a deſign of Marrying one of Dr. *Davis*'s Daughters, a very Handſome and Witty Gentlewoman, but averſe as it is ſaid to this Motion; however, the Intelligence hereof, and the then declining State of the King's Cauſe, and conſequently of the Circumſtances of Juſtice *Powell*'s Family, cauſed them to ſet all Engines on Work, to reſtore the late Married Woman to the Station wherein they a little before had planted her; at laſt this device was pitch'd upon. There dwelt in the Lane of St. *Martins-L-Grand*, which was hard by, a Relation of our Author's, one *Blackborough*, whom it was known he often viſited, and upon this occaſion the viſits were the more narrowly obſerv'd, and poſſibly there might be a Combination between both Parties; the Friends on both ſides concentring in the ſame action though on different behalfs. One time above the reſt, he making his uſual viſit, the Wife was ready in another Room, and on a ſudden he was ſurpriſed to ſee one whom he thought to have never ſeen more, making Submiſſion and begging Pardon on her Knees before him; he might probably

bly at first make some shew of aversion and rejection; but partly his own generous nature, more inclinable to Reconciliation than to perseverance in Anger and Revenge; and partly the strong intercession of Friends on both sides, soon brought him to an Act of Oblivion, and a firm League of Peace for the future; and it was at length concluded, That she should remain at a Friend's house, till such time as he was settled in his New house at *Barbican*, and all things for her reception in order; the place agreed on for her present abode, was the Widow *Webber*'s house in St. *Clement*'s Church-yard, whose Second Daughter had been Married to the other Brother many years before; the first fruits of her return to her Husband was a brave Girl, born within a year after; though, whether by ill Constitution, or want of Care, she grew more and more decrepit. But it was not only by Children that she increas'd the number of the Family, for in no very long time after her coming, she had a great resort of her Kindred with her in the House, *viz.* her Father and Mother, and several of her Brothers and Sisters, which were in all pretty Numerous; who upon his Father's Sickning and Dying soon after went away. And now the House look'd again like a

Houſe of the Muſes only, tho the acceſſion of Scholars was not great. Poſſibly his proceeding thus far in the Education of Youth may have been the occaſion of ſome of his Adverſaries calling him Pædagogue and Schoolmaſter: Whereas it is well known he never ſet up for a Publick School to teach all the young Fry of a Pariſh, but only was willing to impart his Learning and Knowledge to Relations, and the Sons of ſome Gentlemen that were his intimate Friends; beſides, that neither his Converſe, nor his Writings, nor his manner of Teaching ever ſavour'd in the leaſt any thing of Pedantry; and probably he might have ſome proſpect of putting in Practice his Academical Inſtitution, according to the Model laid down in his Sheet of Education. The Progreſs of which deſign was afterwards diverted by a Series of Alteration in the Affairs of State; for I am much miſtaken, if there were not about this time a deſign in Agitation of making him Adjutant-General in Sir *William Waller's* Army; but the new modelling of the Army ſoon following, prov'd an obſtruction to that deſign; and Sir *William*, his Commiſſion being laid down, began, as the common ſaying is, to turn *Cat in Pan*. It was not long after the

March

March of *Fairfax* and *Comwel* through the City of *London* with the whole Army, to quell the Inſurrections *Brown* and *Maſſy*, now Malecontents alſo, were endeavouring to raiſe in the City againſt the Armies proceedings, ere he left his great Houſe in *Barbican*, and betook himſelf to a ſmaller in *High Holbourn*, among thoſe that open backward into *Lincolns-Inn*-Fields, here he liv'd a private and quiet Life, ſtill proſecuting his Studies and curious Search into Knowledge, the grand Affair perpetually of his Life; till ſuch time as the War being now at an end, with compleat Victory to the Parliament's ſide, as the Parliament then ſtood purg'd of all it's Diſſenting Members, and the King after ſome Treaties with the Army, *re Infecta*, brought to his Tryal; the form of Government being now chang'd into a Free State, he was hereupon oblig'd to Write a Treatiſe, call'd the *Tenure of Kings and Magiſtrates*. After which his thoughts were bent upon retiring again to his own private Studies, and falling upon ſuch Subjects as his proper Genius prompted him to Write of, among which was the Hiſtory of our own Nation from the Beginning till the *Norman* Conqueſt, wherein he had made ſome progreſs. When for this his laſt Treatiſe, reviving the fame

of

of other things he had formerly Publiſhed, being more and more taken notice of for his excellency of Stile, and depth of Judgement, he was courted into the Service of this new Commonwealth, and at laſt prevail'd with (for he never hunted after Preferment, nor affected the Tintamar and Hurry of Publick buſineſs) to take upon him the Office of *Latin* Secretary to the Counſel of State for all their Letters to Foreign Princes and States; for they ſtuck to this Noble and Generous Reſolution, not to write to any, or receive Anſwers from them, but in a Language moſt proper to maintain a Correſpondence among the Learned of all Nations in this part of the World; ſcorning to carry on their Affairs in the Wheedling Liſping Jargon of the Cringing *French*, eſpecially having a Miniſter of State able to cope with the ableſt any Prince or State could imploy for the Latin Tongue; and ſo well he acquitted himſelf in this ſtation, that he gain'd from abroad both Reputation to himſelf, and Credit to the State that Employed him; and it was well the buſineſs of his Office came not very faſt upon him, for he was ſcarce well warm in his Secretaryſhip before other Work flow'd in upon him, which took him up for ſome conſiderable time. In the

the firſt place there came out a Book ſaid to have been written by the King, and finiſhed a little before his Death, Entituled, Εικων Βασιλικη, that is, *The Royal Image*; a Book highly cryed up for it's ſmooth Style, and pathetical Compoſure; wherefore to obviate the impreſſion it was like to make among the *Many*, he was obliged to Write an Anſwer, which he Entituled Εικονοκλασης, or *Image-Breaker*; and upon the heels of that, out comes in Publick the great Kill-cow of *Chriſtendom*, with his *Defenſio Regis contra Populum Anglicanum*; a Man ſo Famous and cryed up for his *Plinian Exercitations*, and other Pieces of reputed Learning, that there could no where have been found a Champion that durſt lift up the Pen againſt ſo formidable an Adverſary, had not our little *Engliſh David* had the Courage to undertake this great *French Goliah*, to whom he gave ſuch a hit in the Forehead, that he preſently ſtaggered, and ſoon after fell; for immediately upon the coming out of the Anſwer, Entituled, *Defenſio Populi Anglicani, contra Claudium Anonymum*, &c. he that till then had been Chief Miniſter and Superintendant in the Court of the Learned *Chriſtina* Queen of *Sweden*, dwindled in eſteem to that degree, that he at laſt vouchſafed to ſpeak to the meaneſt

eſt Servant. In ſhort, he was diſmiſs'd with ſo cold and ſlighting an Adieu, that after a faint dying Reply, he was glad to have recourſe to Death, the remedy of Evils, and ender of Controverſies: And now I preſume our Author had ſome breathing ſpace; but it was not long; for though *Salmaſius* was departed, he left ſome ſtings behind, new Enemies ſtarted up, Barkers, though no great Biters; who the firſt Aſſertor of *Salmaſius* his Cauſe was, is not certainly known, but variouſly conjectur'd at, ſome ſuppoſing it to be one *Janus* a Lawyer of *Grays-Inn*, ſome Dr. *Bramhal*, made by King *Charles* the Second after his Reſtauration Archbiſhop of *Armagh* in *Ireland*; but whoever the Author was, the Book was thought fit to be taken into correction, and our Author not thinking it worth his own undertaking, to the diſturbing the progreſs of whatever more choſen work he had then in hands, committed this task to the youngeſt of his Nephews, but with ſuch exact Emendations before it went to the Preſs, that it might have very well have paſſed for his, but that he was willing the perſon that took the pains to prepare it for his Examination and Poliſhment, ſhould have the Name and Credit of being the Author; ſo that it came forth under this Title,

Title, *Joannis Philippi Angli Defenſio pro Populo Anglicano contra*, &c. during the Writing and Publiſhing of this Book, he lodg'd at one *Thomſon*'s next door to the *Bull-head* Tavern at *Charing-Croſs*, opening into the *Spring-Garden*, which ſeems to have have been only a Lodging taken, till his deſigned Apartment in *Scotland-Yard* was prepared for him; for hither he ſoon removed from the foreſaid place; and here his third Child, a Son was born, which through the ill uſage, or bad Conſtitution of an ill choſen Nurſe, died an Infant; from this Apartment, whether he thought it it not healthy, or otherwiſe convenient for his uſe, or whatever elſe was the reaſon, he ſoon after took a pretty Garden-houſe in *Petty-France* in *Weſtminſter*, next door to the Lord *Scudamore*'s, and opening into St. *James*'s Park; here he remain'd no leſs than Eight years, namely, from the year 1652, till within a few weeks of King *Charles* the 2d's. Reſtoration. In this Houſe his firſt Wife dying in Childbed, he Married a Second, who after a Year's time died in Childbed alſo; this his Second Marriage was about Two or Three years after his being wholly depriv'd of Sight, which was juſt going, about the time of his Anſwering *Salmaſius*; whereupon his Adverſaries

ſaries gladly take occaſion of imputing his blindneſs as a Judgment upon him for his Anſwering the King's Book, *&c.* whereas it is moſt certainly known, that his Sight, what with his continual Study, his being ſubject to the Head-ake, and his perpetual tampering with Phyſick to preſerve it, had been decaying for above a dozen years before, and the ſight of one for a long time clearly loſt. Here he wrote, by his *Amanuenſis*, his Two Anſwers to *Alexander More*; who upon the laſt Anſwer quitted the field. So that being now quiet from State-Adverſaries and publick Conteſts, he had leiſure again for his own Studies and private Deſigns; which were his foreſaid *Hiſtory of* England, and a New *Theſaurus Linguæ Latinæ*, according to the manner of *Stephanus*; a work he had been long ſince Collecting from his own Reading, and ſtill went on with it at times, even very near to his dying day; but the Papers after his death were ſo diſcompoſed and deficient, that it could not be made fit for the Preſs; However, what there was of it, was made uſe of for another Dictionary. But the Heighth of his Noble Fancy and Invention began now to be ſeriouſly and mainly imployed in a Subject worthy of ſuch a Muſe, *viz.* A Heroick Poem, Entituled, *Paradiſe Loſt*; the

the Nobleſt in the general Eſteem of Learned and Judicious Perſons, of any yet written by any either Ancient or Modern: This Subject was firſt deſigned a Tragedy, and in the Fourth Book of the Poem there are Ten Verſes, which ſeveral Years before the Poem was begun, were ſhewn to me, and ſome others, as deſigned for the very beginning of the ſaid Tragedy. The Verſes are theſe;

O Thou that with ſurpaſſing Glory Crown'd!
Look'ſt from thy ſole Dominion, like the God
Of this New World; at whoſe ſight all the Stars
Hide their diminiſh'd Heads; to thee I call,
But with no friendly Voice; and add thy Name,
O Sun! to tell thee how I hate thy Beams
That bring to my remembrance, from what State
I fell; how Glorious once above thy Sphere;
Till Pride and worſe Ambition threw me down,
Warring in Heaven, againſt Heaven's Glorious King.

There

There is another very remarkable Paſſage in the Compoſure of this Poem, which I have a particular occaſion to remember; for whereas I had the peruſal of it from the very beginning; for ſome years as I went from time to time to Viſit him, in a Parcel of Ten, Twenty, or Thirty Verſes at a Time, which being Written by whatever hand came next, might poſſibly want Correction as to the Orthography and Pointing; having as the Summer came on, not been ſhewed any for a conſiderable while, and deſiring the reaſon thereof, was anſwered, That his Vein never happily flow'd, but from the *Autumnal Equinoctial* to the *Vernal*, and that whatever he attempted was never to his ſatisfaction, though he courted his fancy never ſo much; ſo that in all the years he was about this Poem, he may be ſaid to have ſpent but half his time therein. It was but a little before the King's Reſtoration that he Wrote and Publiſhed his Book in *Defence of a Commonwealth*; ſo undaunted he was in declaring his true Sentiments to the world; and not long before, his Power of the *Civil Magiſtrate in Eccleſiaſtical Affairs*; and *his Treatiſe againſt Hirelings*, juſt upon the King's coming over; having a little before been ſequeſtred from his Office of *Latin* Secretary

cretary, and the Salary thereunto belonging, he was forc'd to leave his Houſe alſo, in *Petty France*, where all the time of his abode there, which was eight years, as above-mentioned, he was frequently viſited by perſons of Quality, particularly my Lady *Ranala*, whoſe Son for ſome time he inſtructed; all Learned Foreigners of Note, who could not part out of this City, without giving a viſit to a perſon ſo Eminent; and laſtly, by particular Friends that had a high eſteem for him, *viz.* Mr. *Andrew Marvel*, young *Laurence* (the Son of him that was Preſident of *Oliver's* Council) to whom there is a Sonnet among the reſt, in his Printed Poems; Mr. *Marchamont Needham*, the Writer of *Politicus*; but above all, Mr. *Cyriak Skinner* whom he honoured with two Sonnets, one long ſince publick among his Poems; the other but newly Printed. His next removal was, by the advice of thoſe that wiſht him well, and had a concern for his preſervation, into a place of retirement and abſcondence, till ſuch time as the current of affairs for the future ſhould inſtruct him what farther courſe to take; it was a Friend's Houſe in *Bartholomew-Cloſe*, where he liv'd till the Act of Oblivion came forth; which it pleaſed God, prov'd as favourable

to

to him as could be hop'd or expected, through the interceſſion of ſome that ſtood his Friends both in Council and Parliament; particularly in the Houſe of Commons, Mr. *Andrew Marvel*, a Member for *Hull*, acted vigorouſly in his behalf, and made a conſiderable party for him; ſo that, together with *John Goodwin* of *Coleman-Street*, he was only ſo far excepted as not to bear any Office in the Commonwealth. Soon after appearing again in publick, he took a Houſe in *Holborn* near *Red Lyon Fields*, where he ſtayed not long before his Pardon having paſs'd the Seal, he remov'd to *Jewin Street*; there he liv'd when he married his 3d. Wife, recommended to him by his old Friend Dr. *Paget* in *Coleman-ſtreet*; but he ſtay'd not long after his new Marriage, ere he remov'd to a Houſe in the *Artillery*-walk leading to *Bunhill Fields*. And this was his laſt Stage in this World, but it was of many years continuance, more perhaps than he had had in any other place beſides. Here he finiſht his noble Poem, and publiſht it in the year 1666. the firſt Edition was Printed in Quarto by one *Simons* a Printer in *Alderſgate-Street*, the other in a large Octavo, by *Starky* near *Temple-Bar*, amended, enlarg'd, and differently diſpos'd as to the Number

of

of Books, by his own Hand, that is by his own appointment; the laſt ſet forth many years ſince his death in a large Folio with Cuts added by *Jacob Tonſon*. Here it was alſo that he finiſht and publiſht his Hiſtory of our Nation till the Conqueſt, all compleat ſo far as he went, ſome Paſſages only excepted, which being thought too ſharp againſt the Clergy, could not paſs the Hand of the Licencer, were in the Hands of the late Earl of *Angleſey* while he liv'd; where at preſent is uncertain. It cannot certainly be concluded when he wrote his excellent Tragedy entitled *Samſon Agoniſtes*, but ſure enough it is that it came forth afert his publication of *Paradice loſt*, together with his other Poem call'd *Paradice regain'd* which doubtleſs was begun and finiſht and Printed after the other was publiſht, and that in a wonderful ſhort ſpace conſidering the ſublimeneſs of it; however it is generally cenſur'd to be much inferiour to the other, though he could not hear with patience any ſuch thing when related to him; poſſibly the Subject may not afford ſuch variety of Invention, but it is thought by the moſt judicious to be little or nothing inferiour to the other, for ſtile and decorum. The ſaid Earl of *Angleſy* whom he preſented with a Copy of the unlicens'd Papers of

his

his Hiſtory, came often here to viſit him, as very much coveting his ſociety and converſe; as likewiſe others of the Nobility, and many perſons of eminent quality; nor were the viſits of Foreigners ever more frequent than in this place, almoſt to his dying day. His Treatiſe of true Religion, Hereſy, Schiſm and Toleration, *&c.* was doubtleſs the laſt thing of his writing that was publiſht before his Death. He had, as I remember, prepared for the Preſs an anſwer to ſome little ſcribing Quack in *London*, who had written a Scurrilous Libel againſt him, but whether by the diſſwaſion of Friends, as thinking him a Fellow not worth his notice, or for what other cauſe I know not, this Anſwer was never publiſht. He died in the year 1673. towards the latter end of the Summer, and had a very decent interment according to his Quality, in the Church of St. *Giles Cripplegate*, being attended from his Houſe to the Church by ſeveral Gentlemen then in Town, his principal wellwi-ſhers and admirers. He had three Daughters who ſurviv'd him many years (and a Son) all by his firſt Wife (of whom ſufficient mention hath been made.) *Anne* his Eldeſt as aboveſaid, and *Mary* his Second, who were both born at his Houſe in *Barbican*; and

*Debora*

*Debora* the youngeſt, who is yet living, born at his Houſe in *Petty-France*; between whom and his Second Daughter, the Son, named *John*, was born as above-mention'd, at his Apartment in *Scotland Yard*. By his Second Wife, *Catharine* the Daughter of Captain *Woodcock* of *Hackney*, he had only one Daughter, of which the Mother the firſt year after her Marriage died in Child bed, and the Child alſo within a Month after. By his Third Wife *Elizabeth* the Daughter of one Mr. *Minſhal* of *Cheſhire*, ( and Kinſwoman to Dr. *Paget* ) who ſurviv'd him, and is ſaid to be yet living, he never had any Child; and thoſe he had by the Firſt he made ſerviceable to him in that very particular in which he moſt wanted their Service, and ſupplied his want of Eye-ſight by their Eyes and Tongue; for though he had daily about him one or other to Read to him, ſome perſons of Man's Eſtate, who of their own accord greedily catch'd at the opportunity of being his Readers, that they might as well reap the benefit of what they Read to him, as oblige him by the benefit of their reading; others of younger years ſent by their Parents to the ſame end, yet excuſing only the Eldeſt Daughter by reaſon of her bodily Infirmity, and difficult utterance of Speech, ( which

to

to ſay truth I doubt was the Principal cauſe of excuſing her) the other two were Condemn'd to the performance of Reading, and exactly pronouncing of all the Languages of what ever Book he ſhould at one time or other think fit to peruſe. *Viz.* The *Hebrew* (and I think the *Syriac*) the *Greek*, the *Latin*, the *Italian*, *Spaniſh* and *French*. All which ſorts of Books to be confined to Read, without underſtanding one word, muſt needs be a Tryal of Patience, almoſt beyond endurance; yet it was endured by both for a long time, yet the irkſomeneſs of this imployment could not be always concealed, but broke out more and more into expreſſions of uneaſineſs; ſo that at length they were all (even the Eldeſt alſo) ſent out to learn ſome Curious and Ingenious ſorts of Manufacture, that are proper for Women to learn, particularly Imbroideries in Gold or Silver. It had been happy indeed if the Daughters of ſuch a Perſon had been made in ſome meaſure Inheritrixes of their Father's Learning; but ſince Fate otherwiſe decreed, the greateſt Honour that can be aſcribed to this now living (and ſo would have been to the others had they lived) is to be Daughter to a man of his extraordinary Character.

He is said to have dyed worth 1500 *l.* in Money (a considerable Estate, all things considered) besides Houshold Goods; for he sustained such losses as might well have broke any person less frugal and temperate then himself; no less then 2000 *l.* which he had put for Security and improvement into the Excise Office, but neglecting to recal it in time, could never after get it out, with all the Power and Interest he had in the Great ones of those Times; besides another great Sum, by mismanagement and for want of good advice.

Thus I have reduced into form and order what ever I have been able to rally up, either from the recollection of my own memory, of things transacted while I was with him, or the Information of others equally conversant afterwards, or from his own mouth by frequent visits to the last.

I shall conclude with two material passages, which though they relate not immediately to our Author, or his own particular concerns; yet in regard they happned during his publick employ, and consequently fell most especially under his cognisance; it will not be amiss here to subjoin them The first was this,

Before the War broke forth between the States of *England*, and the *Dutch*, the *Hollanders* sent over Three Embassadours in order to an accom-

modation; but they returning *re infecta*, the *Dutch* ſent away a *Plenipotentiary*, to offer Peace upon much milder terms, or at leaſt to gain more time

But this *Plenipotentiary* could not make ſuch haſte, but that the Parliament had procured a Copy of their Inſtructions in *Holland*, which were delivered by our Author to his Kinſman that was then with him, to Tranſlate for the Council to view, before the ſaid *Plenipotentiary* had taken Shipping for *England*; an Anſwer to all he had in Charge lay ready for him, before he made his publick entry into *London*.

In the next place there came a perſon with a very ſumptuous train, pretending himſelf an Agent from the Prince of *Conde*, then in Arms againſt Cardinal *Mazarine*: The Parliament miſtruſting him, ſet their Inſtrument ſo buſily at work, that in Four or Five Days they had procured Intelligence from *Paris*, that he was a Spy from K. *Charles*; whereupon the very next Morning our Author's Kinſman was ſent to him, with an Order of Councel commanding him to depart the Kingdom within Three Days, or expect the Puniſhment of a Spy.

By theſe two remarkable paſſages, we may clearly diſcover the Induſtry and good Intelligence of thoſe Times.

Here is a Catalogue added of every Book of his that was ever publiſh'd, which to my knowledge is full and compleat.

To

TO

# Oliver Cromwell.

CRomwell our Chief of Men, that through a Croud,
Not of War only, but diſtractions rude;
Guided by Faith, and Matchleſs Fortitude:
To Peace and Truth, thy Glorious way haſt Plough'd,
And Fought God's Battels, and his Work purſu'd,
While *Darwent* Streams with Blood of *Scots* imbru'd;
And *Dunbarfield* reſound thy Praiſes loud,
And *Worceſter*'s Laureat Wreath; yet much remains
To Conquer ſtill; Peace hath her Victories
No leſs than thoſe of War; new Foes ariſe
Threatning to bind our Souls in ſecular Chains,
Help us to ſave Free Conſcience from the paw
Of Hireling W'olves, whoſe Goſpel is their Maw.

# To my Lord FAIRFAX.

*Fairfax*, whose Name in Arms through *Europe* rings,
And fills all Mouths with Envy or with Praise,
And all her Jealous Monarchs with Amaze.
And Rumours loud which daunt remotest Kings,
Thy firm unshaken Valour ever brings
Victory home, while new Rebellions raise
Their Hydra-heads, and the false *North* displays
Her broken League to Imp her Serpent Wings:
O yet! a Nobler task awaits thy Hand,
For what can War, but Acts of War still breed,
Till injur'd Truth from Violence be freed;
And publick Faith be rescu'd from the Brand
Of publick Fraud; in vain doth Valour bleed,
While Avarice and Rapine shares the Land.

## To Sir *HENRY VANE.*

*VANE*, Young in years, but in Sage Councels old,
Then whom a better Senator ne're held
The Helm of *Rome*, when Gowns, not Arms, repell'd
The fierce *Epirote*, and the *African* bold,
Whether to settle Peace, or to unfold
The Drift of hollow States, hard to be Spell'd;
Then to advise how War may best be upheld,
Mann'd by her Two main Nerves, Iron and Gold,
In all her Equipage: Besides, to know
Both Spiritual and Civil, what each means,
What serves each, thou hast learn'd, which few have done.
The bounds of either Sword to thee we owe;
Therefore on thy Right hand Religion leans,
And reckons thee in chief her Eldest Son.

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## To Mr. *CYRIAC SKINNER* Upon his Blindneſs.

*CYRIAC* this Three years day, theſe Eyes though clear
To outward view of blemiſh or of Spot,
Bereft of Sight, their Seeing have forgot:
Nor to their idle Orbs doth day appear,
Or Sun, or Moon, or Star, throughout the Year;
Or Man, or Woman; yet I argue not
Againſt Heaven's Hand, or Will, nor bate one jot
Of Heart or Hope; but ſtill bear up, and ſteer
Right onward. What ſupports me, doſt thou ask?
The Conſcience, Friend, to have loſt them over ply'd
In Liberties Defence, my noble task;
Of which all *Europe* rings from ſide to ſide.
This thought might lead me through this World's vain mask
Content, though blind, had I no other Guide.

A Ca-

A

# CATALOGUE

OF

# Mr. *John Milton*'s Works.

ΕΙΚΟΝΟΚΛΑΣΤΗΣ In Anſwer to a Book, Entituled, ΕΙΚΩ'Ν ΒΑΣΙΛΙΚΗ, The Portraiture of his Sacred Majeſty in his Solitudes and Sufferings.

The Tenure of Kings and Magiſtrates; proving, That it is Lawful, and hath been held ſo through all Ages, for any who have the Power, to call to Account a Tyrant, or Wicked King; and after due Conviction to Depoſe and put him to Death, if the ordinary Magiſtrate have neglected or denied to do it; and that they who of late ſo much blame Depoſing, are the men that did it themſelves. *4to.*

Obſervations upon the Articles of Peace with the *Iriſh* Rebels, on the Letter of *Ormond*

*mond* to Collonel *Jones*, and the Repreſentation of the Presbytery of *Belfaſt*. 4*to*.

The ready and eaſie way to eſtabliſh a Free Commonwealth; and the Excellency thereof compared with the Inconveniencies and Dangers of Readmitting Kingſhip in this Nation. 4*to*.

*Areopagitica*; A Speech of *John Milton* for the Liberty of Unlicenſed Printing, to the Parliament of *England*. 4*to*.

Brief Notes upon a Sermon Entitled, *The Fear of God and the King*, Preach'd and ſince Publiſh'd by *Matthew Griffeth*, D. D. and Chaplain to the late King; wherein many notorious Wreſtings of Scripture, and other Falſities are obſerved: By *J. M.* 4*to*.

Of Reformation touching Church-Diſcipline in *England*, and the Cauſes that hitherto have hindred it. Two Books written to a Friend. 4*to*.

Of Prelatical Epiſcopacy, and whether it may be deduc'd from the Apoſtolical times by verrue of thoſe Teſtimonies which are alledged to that purpoſe in ſome late Treatiſes; one whereof goes under the Name of *James* Archbiſhop of *Armagh*. 4*to*.

Animadverſions upon the Remonſtrants defence againſt *Smectymnuus*. 4*to*.

An Apology for *Smectymnuus*, with the Reaſon of Church-Government. 4*to*.

The

The Reaſon of Church-Government urged againſt Prelacy. In Two Books. 4*to.*

Of True Religion, Hereſie, Schiſm, Toleration, and what beſt means may be uſed againſt the growth of Popery. 4*to.*

The Doctrine and Diſcipline of Divorce, reſtored, to the Good of both Sexes, from the Bondage of Canon Law and other miſtakes, to the true meaning of Scripture in the Law and Goſpel compared. Wherein alſo are ſet down the bad conſequences of Aboliſhing, or Condemning of Sin, that which the Law of God allows, and Chriſt aboliſht not. Now the ſecond time Reviſed, and much Augmented in Two Books. To the Parliament of *England*, with the Aſſembly. In 4*to.*

*Colaſterion*: A Reply to a nameleſs Anſwer againſt the Doctrine and Diſcipline of Divorce. Wherein the Trivial Author of that Anſwer is diſcovered, the Licenſer conferr'd with, and the Opinion which they traduce defended. 4*to.*

*Tetrachordon*: Expoſitions upon the Four chief Places in Scripture, which Treat of Marriage, or Nullities in Marriage, on *Geneſis* 1. 27, 28. Compar'd and Explain'd by *Geneſis* 2. 18, 23, 24. *Deut.* 24. 1, 2. *Matt.* 5. 31, 32. with *Matt.* 19. from the 3d. to the 11. *verſe.* 1 *Cor.* 7. from the 10th.

to

to the 16th. Wherein the Doctrine and Diſcipline of Divorce, as was lately Publiſhed, is confirmed by Explanation of Scripture, by Teſtimony of Ancient Fathers, of Civil Laws, in the Primitive Church, of Famouſeſt Reformed Divines: And laſtly, by an intended act of the Parliament and Church of *England* in the laſt year of *Edward* the Sixth. 4*to*.

The Judgment of *Martin Bucer* concerning Divorce, written to *Edward* the Sixth, in his ſecond Book of the Kingdom of Chriſt, and now *Engliſhed*; wherein a late Book reſtoring the Doctrine and Diſcipline of Divorce is here Confirmed and Juſtified by the Authority of *Martin Bucer*. To the Parliament of *England*. 4*to*.

The Hiſtory of *Brittain*, that part eſpecially now called *England*: From the firſt Traditional Beginning, continued to the *Norman* Conqueſt. Collected out of the Ancienteſt and beſt Authors thereof, in 4*to*.

Paradice loſt, A Poem in Twelve Books in 4*to*.

Paradice regain'd, a Poem in four Books; to which is added *Samſon* Agoniſtes. *Octav*.

Poems upon ſeveral Occaſions, both *Engliſh* and *Latin*, &c. Compoſed at ſeveral times.

A brief

A brief Hiſtory of *Muſcovia*, and of other leſs known Countries, lying *Eaſtward* of *Pruſſia*, as far as *Cathay*; gathered from the writings of ſeveral Eye-witneſſes. *Oct.*

A Treatiſe of Civil Power in Eccleſiaſtical Cauſes, ſhewing that it is not Lawful for any Power on Earth, to Compel in Matters of Religion. *Twelves.*

Conſiderations touching the likelieſt means to remove Hirelings out of the Church; wherein is alſo diſcours'd, of *Tythes*, *Church-Fees*, and *Church-Revenues*; and whether any maintenance of Miniſters can be ſetled by Law. *Twelves.*

A Declaration, or Letters Patents of the Election of *John* King of *Poland*. A Tranſlation.

Opera Latina, *Viz.*

Defenſio pro populo Anglicano. *The ſame lately Tranſlated into Engliſh.*

Defenſio Secunda.

Defenſio Pro ſe.

Defenſio Miltoni per Johannem Philippum.

Literæ Pſeudo-Senatûs Cromwellii Reliquorumque perduellium nomine ac juſſu conſcriptæ a J. M. *Twelves.*

Johannis

Johannis Miltoni Angli Epiſtolarum Familiarium Liber unus: Quibus Acceſſerunt, jam olim in Collegio Adoleſcentis, Proluſiones Quædam Oratoriæ. *Octavo.*

Accidence Commenet Gramar.

Johannis Miltoni Angli Artis Logicæ Plenior Inſtitutio ad Petri Rami Methodum Concinnata: Adjecta eſt Praxis Annalytica & Petri Rami vita libris Duobus. *Twelves.*

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LET-

# LETTERS

Written in the

# Name of the Parlament.

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*The Senate and People of* England, *to the moſt Noble Senate of the City of* Hamborough.

FOR how long a ſeries of paſt Years, and for what important Reaſons the Friendſhip enter'd into by our Anceſtors with your moſt Noble City has continu'd to this day, we both willingly acknowledge, together with your ſelves; nor is it a thing diſpleaſing to us, frequently alſo to call to our remembrance. But as to what we underſtand, by your Letters dated the *25th.* of *June*, that

ſome of our People deal not with that Fidelity and Probity, as they were wont to do in their Trading and Commerce among ye; we preſently referr'd it to the conſideration of certain Perſons well skill'd in thoſe matters, to the end they might make a more ſtrict enquiry into the Frauds of the Clothiers and other Artificers of the Woollen Manufacture. And we farther promiſe, to take ſuch effectual care, as to make you ſenſible of our unalterable intentions, to preſerve ſincerity and juſtice among our ſelves, as alſo never to neglect any good Offices of our kindneſs that may redound to the welfare of your Commonwealth. On the other hand, there is ſomething likewiſe which we not only require, but which Equity it ſelf, and all the Laws of God and Man, demand of your ſelves, That you will not only conſerve inviolable to the Merchants of our Nation their Privileges, but by your Authority and

Power

Power defend and protect their Lives and Eſtates, as it becomes your City to do. Which as we moſt earneſtly deſir'd in our former Letters, ſo upon the repeated Complaints of our Merchants that are daily made before us, we now more earneſtly ſollicite and requeſt it: they complaining, That their ſafety, and all that they have in the world, is again in great jeopardy among ye. For although they acknowledge themſelves to have reap'd ſome Benefit for a ſhort time of our former Letters ſent you, and to have had ſome reſpite from the Injuries of a ſort of Profligate People; yet ſince the coming of the ſame *Coc—m* to your City (of whom we complain'd before) who pretends to be honour'd with a ſort of Embaſſy from ——— the Son of the lately deceas'd King, they have been aſſaulted with all manner of ill Language, Threats and naked Swords of Ruffians and Homicides, and have wanted your ac-

cuſtom'd Protection and Defence; inſomuch, that when Two or Three of the Merchants, together with the Preſident of the Society, were hurry'd away by ſurprize Aboard a certain Privateer, and that the reſt implor'd your Aid, yet they could not obtain any Aſſiſtance from you, till the Merchants themſelves were forc'd to embody their own ſtrength, and reſcue from the hands of Pyrates the Perſons Seiz'd on in that River, of which your City is the Miſtreſs, not without extream hazard of their Lives. Nay, when they had fortunately brought 'em home again, and as it were by Force of Arms recover'd 'em from an Ignominious Captivity, and carry'd the Pyrates themſelves into Cuſtody; we are inform'd that *Coc — m* was ſo audacious, as to demand the Releaſe of the Pyrates, and that the Merchants might be deliver'd Priſoners into his hands. We thereforeagain,and again,beſeech and adjure ye, if it be your intention that

Con-

Contracts and Leagues, and the very ancient Commerce between both Nations ſhould be preſerv'd, the thing which you deſire, That our People may be able to aſſure themſelves of ſome certain and firm ſupport and reliance upon your Word, your Prudence and Authority; that you would lend 'em a favourable Audience concerning theſe matters; and that you would inflict deſerved Puniſhment as well upon *Coc—m*, and the reſt of his Accomplices in that wicked act, as upon thoſe who lately aſſaulted the Preacher, hitherto unpuniſh'd, or command 'em to depart your Territories; nor that you would believe that expell'd and exil'd *Tarquins* are to be preferr'd before the Friendſhip, and the Wealth, and Power of our Republick. For if you do not carefully provide to the contrary, but that the Enemies of our Republick ſhall preſume to think lawful the committing of any Violences againſt us in your City, how

unſafe, how ignominious the Reſidence of our People there will be, do you conſider with your ſelves. Theſe things we recommend to your Prudence and Equity, your ſelves to the Protection of Heaven.

*Weſtminſter, Aug.* 10. 1649.

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*To the Senate of* Hamborough.

YOUR conſpicuous Favour in the doubtful condition of our Affairs, is now the reaſon, that after Victory and proſperous Succeſs, we can no longer queſtion your good will and friendly inclination towards us. As for our parts, the War being almoſt now determin'd, and our Enemies every where vanquiſh'd, we have deem'd nothing more juſt, or more conducing to the firm Eſtabliſhment of the Republick, then that they who by our means (the Almighty being always our Captain and Conductor) have either recover'd

ver'd their Liberty, or obtain'd their Lives and Fortunes, after the pernicious Ravages of a Civil War, of our free Gift and Grace, ſhould teſtifie and pay in exchange to their Magiſtrates Allegiance and Duty in a ſolemn manner, if need requir'd. More eſpecially, when ſo many Turbulent and Exaſperated Perſons, more then once receiv'd into Protection, will make no end, either at home or abroad, of acting Perfidiouſly, and raiſing new Diſturbances. To that purpoſe we took care to enjoin a certain form of an Oath, by which all who held any Office in the Commonwealth, or being fortify'd with the Protection of the Law, enjoy'd both Safety, Eaſe, and all other Conveniences of Life, ſhould bind themſelves to Obedience in words preſcrib'd. This we alſo thought proper to be ſent to all Colonies abroad, or where-ever elſe our People reſided for the convenience of Trade; to the end that the Fidelity of thoſe over

whom we are ſet, might be prov'd and known to us, as it is but reaſonable and neceſſary. Which makes us wonder ſo much the more at what our Merchants write from your City, that they are not permitted to execute our Commands by ſome or other of your *Order* and Degree. Certainly what the moſt Potent United Provinces of the Low Countries, moſt jealous of their Power and their Intereſts, never thought any way belonging to their inſpection, namely whether the *Engliſh* Foreigners ſwore Fidelity and Allegiance to their Magiſtrates at home, either in theſe or thoſe Words, how that ſhould come to be ſo ſuſpected and troubleſome to your City, we muſt plainly acknowledge that we do not underſtand. But this proceeding from the private inclinations or fears of ſome, whom certain Vagabond *Scots*, expell'd their Countrey, are ſaid to have enforc'd by Menaces, on purpoſe to deter our Merchants from

from Swearing Fidelity to us, we impute not to your City. Moſt earneſtly therefore we intreat and conjure ye (for it is not now the intereſt of Trade, but the honour of the Republick it ſelf that lies at ſtake) not to ſuffer any one among ye, who can have no reaſon to concern himſelf in this Affair, to interpoſe his Authority, whatever it be, with that Supremacy which we challenge over our own Subjects, not by the judgment and opinion of Foreigners, but by the Laws of our Country; for who would not take it amiſs, if we ſhould forbid your *Hamburghers*, reſiding here, to Swear Fidelity to you that are their Magiſtrates at Home? Farewel.

*Jan.* 4. 1649.

*To the Moſt Serene and Potent Prince* Philip *the Fourth, King of* Spain. *The Parliament of the Commonwealth of* England, *Greeting.*

WE ſend to your Majeſty *Anthony Aſcham*, a perſon of Integrity, Learned, and Deſcended of an Ancient Family, to Treat of matters very advantageous, as we hope, as well to the *Spaniſh*, as the *Engliſh* Nation. Wherefore in freindly manner, we deſire that you would be pleas'd to Grant, and Order him a Safe and Honourable Paſſage to your Royal City, and the ſame in his return from thence, readily prepar'd to repay the kindneſs when occaſion offers. Or if your Majeſty be otherwiſe inclin'd, that it may be ſignify'd to him with the ſooneſt, what your Pleaſure is in this particular, and that he may be at Liberty to depart without Moleſtation.

*Feb.* 4. 1649.

*To*

*To the Moſt Serene and Potent Prince,* Philip *the Fourth, King of* Spain. *The Parliament of the Commonwealth of* England, *Greeting.*

WHAT is the condition of our Affairs, and by what heinous Injuries provok'd and broken, at length we began to think of recovering our Liberty by force of Arms; what Conſtituted form of Government we now make uſe of, can neither be conceal'd from your Majeſty, nor any other Perſon who has but caſt an impartial Eye upon our Writings Publiſh'd upon theſe Occaſions. Neither ought we to think it a difficult thing, among fit and proper judges of things, to render our Fidelity, our Equity, and Patience, manifeſt to all men, and juſtly meriting their Approbation, as alſo to defend our Authority, Honour, and Grandeur, againſt the infamous Tongues of Exiles and Fugitives.

Now

Now then, as to what is more the concern of Foreign Nations, after having ſubdu'd and vanquiſh'd the Enemies of our Countrey through the Miraculous Aſſiſtance of Heaven, we openly and cordially profeſs our ſelves readily prepar'd to have Peace and Friendſhip, more deſirable then all enlargement of Empire, with our Neighbour Nations. For theſe reaſons we have ſent into *Spain* to your Majeſty, *Antony Aſcham*, of approv'd Dexterity and Probity, to treat with your Majeſty, concerning Friendſhip and the accuſtom'd Commerce between both Nations; or elſe, if it be your Pleaſure, to open a way for the Ratifying of new Articles and Alliances. Our requeſt therefore is, that you will grant him free Liberty of Acceſs to your Majeſty, and give ſuch Order, that care may be taken of his Safety and his Honour, while he reſides a Publick Miniſter with your Majeſty; to the end he may freely propoſe what he has in charge from

from us, for the Benefit, as we hope of both Nations; and certifie to us with the ſooneſt, what are your Majeſty's ſentiments concerning theſe matters.

*Weſtminſter, Feb.* 4. 1649.

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*To the Moſt Serene Prince,* John *the Fourth, King of* Portugal. *The Parliament of the Commonwealth of* England, *Greeting.*

AFTER we had ſuffer'd many, and thoſe the utmoſt Miſchiefs of a Faithleſs Peace, and inteſtine War, Our being reduc'd to thoſe Exigences, that if we had any regard to the ſafety of the Republick, there was a neceſſity of altering for the chiefeſt part the form of Government, is a thing which we make no queſtion is well known to your Majeſty, by what we have both publickly Written and declar'd in juſtification of our Proceedings. To which,

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as it is but reaſon, if credit might be rather given, then to the moſt malicious Calumnies of Looſe and Wicked men; perhaps we ſhould find thoſe perſons more amicably inclin'd, who now abroad have the worſt ſentiments of our actions. For as to what we juſtifie our ſelves to have juſtly and ſtrenuouſly perform'd after the Example of our Anceſtors, in purſuance of our Rights, and for recovery of the native Liberty of *Engliſh-men*, certainly it is not the work of Human force or wit to eradicate the perverſe and obſtinate Opinions of People wickedly inclin'd concerning what we have done. But after all, in reference to what is common to us with all Foreign Nations, and more for the general intereſt on both ſides, we are willing to let the world know, that there is nothing which we more ardently deſire, then that the Friendſhip and Commerce which our People have been accuſtom'd to maintain with

with all our Neighbours, ſhould be enlarg'd and ſettled in the moſt ample and ſolemn manner. And whereas our People have always driven a very great Trade, and gainful to both Nations, in your Kingdom; we ſhall take care, as much as in us lies, that they may not meet with any Impediment to interrupt their dealings. However, we foreſee that all our Induſtry will be in vain, if, as it is reported, the Pyrates and Revolters of our Nation ſhall be ſuffer'd to have Refuge in your Ports, and after they have taken and plunder'd the Laden Veſſels of the *Engliſh*, ſhall be permitted to ſell their Goods by Publick Outcries at *Lisbon*. To the end therefore that a more ſpeedy remedy may be apply'd to this growing Miſchief, and that we may be more clearly ſatisfy'd concerning the Peace which we deſire, we have ſent to *Your Majeſty* the moſt Noble *Charles Vane*, under the Character of our Agent, with Inſtructions and a Com-

Commiſſion, a plenary Teſtimonial of the Truſt we have repos'd, and the employment we have conferr'd upon him. Him therefore we moſt earneſtly deſire your Majeſty graciouſly to hear, to give him Credit, and to take ſuch Order, that he may be ſafe in his Perſon and his Honour within the bounds of your Dominions. Theſe things, as they will be moſt acceptable to us, ſo we promiſe, whenever occaſion offers, that the ſame offices of kindneſs to your Majeſty ſhall be mutually obſerv'd on all our parts.

*Weſtminſter, Feb.* 4. 1649.

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*To the Moſt Serene Prince,* John *the Fourth, King of* Portugal. *The Parliament of the Commonwealth of* England, *Greeting.*

ALmoſt daily and moſt grievous complaints are brought before us, that certain of our Seamen and Officers,

Officers, who revolted from us the laſt year, and Treacherouſly and Wickedly carry'd away the Ships with the Command of which they were entruſted, and who having made their eſcape from the Port of *Ireland*, where being blockt up for almoſt a whole Summer together, they very narrowly avoided the puniſhment due to their Crimes, have now betaken themſelves to the Coaſt of *Portugal*, and the mouth of the River *Tagus*; that there they practice furious Pyracy, Taking and Plundering all the *Engliſh* Veſſels they meet with Sailing to and fro upon the account of Trade, and that all the adjoining Seas are become almoſt impaſſible by reaſon of their notorious and infamous Robberies. To which increaſing Miſchief, unleſs a ſpeedy Remedy be apply'd, who does not ſee but that there will be a final end of that vaſt Trade ſo gainful to both Nations, which our People were wont to drive with the *Portugueſes*? Where-

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fore we again and again requeſt *Your Majeſty*, that you will command thoſe Pyrates and Revolters to depart the Territories of *Portugal*: And that if any pretended Embaſſadors preſent themſelves from * * * * * * * that you will not vouchſafe to give them Audience; but that you will rather acknowledge us, upon whom the Supream Power of *England*, by the Conſpicuous Favour and Aſſiſtance of the Almighty, is devolv'd; and that the Ports and Rivers of *Portugal*, may not be barr'd and defended againſt your Friends and Confederates Fleet, no leſs ſerviceable to your Emolument, then the Trade of the *Engliſh*.

*To* Philip *the Fourth, King of* Spain.

HOW heinouſly, and with what Deteſtation your Majeſty reſented the Villanous Murder of our Agent, *Anthony Aſcham*, and what has hitherto been done in the Proſecution and Puniſhment of his Aſſaſſinates, we have been given to underſtand, as well by your Majeſty's own Letters, as from your Embaſſador *Don Alphonſo de Cardenos*. Nevertheleſs, ſo often as we conſider the horridneſs of that bloody Fact, which utterly ſubverts the very Foundations of Correſpondence and Commerce and of the Privilege of Embaſſadors, moſt ſacred among all Nations, ſo villanouſly violated without ſeverity of puniſhment, we cannot but with utmoſt importunity repeat our moſt urgent Suit to your Majeſty, That thoſe Parricides may with all the Speed imaginable be brought to Juſtice, and that you would

would not ſuffer their merited Pains to be ſuſpended any longer by any delay or pretence of Religion. For tho moſt certainly we highly value the Friendſhip of a Potent Prince; yet it behoves us to uſe our utmoſt endeavours, that the Authors of ſuch an enormous Parricide ſhould receive the deſerved Reward of their Impiety. Indeed, we cannot but with a grateful mind acknowledge that Civility, of which by your Command, our People were not unſenſible, as alſo your ſurpaſſing Affection for us, which lately your Embaſſador at large unfolded to us: Nor will it be diſpleaſing to us to return the ſame good Offices to your Majeſty, and the *Spaniſh* Nation, whenever opportunity offers. Nevertheleſs, if Juſtice be not ſatisfy'd without delay, which we ſtill moſt earneſtly requeſt, we ſee not upon what foundations a ſincere and laſting Friendſhip can ſubſiſt. For the preſervation of which, however, we ſhall omit

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no juſt and laudable occaſion; to which purpoſe we are likewiſe apt to believe that the preſence of your Ambaſſador does not a little conduce.

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*To the* Spaniſh *Embaſſador.*

*Moſt Eccellent Lord,*

THe Council of State, ſo ſoon as their weighty Affairs would permit 'em, having carried into Parlament the four Writings, which it pleas'd your *Excellency* to impart to the Council upon the 19th of *December* laſt, have receiv'd in Command from the Parlament to return this Anſwer to the firſt Head of thoſe Writings, touching the villanous Aſſaſſinates of their late Agent, *Anthony Aſcham.*

The Parlament have ſo long time, ſo often, and ſo juſtly demanded their being brought to deſerved Puniſhment,

niſhment, that there needs nothing further to be ſaid on a thing of ſo great importance, wherein (as your Excellency well obſerv'd) his Royal Majeſty's Authority it ſelf is ſo deeply concern'd, that unleſs Juſtice be done upon ſuch notorious Offenders, all the foundations of Humane Society, all the ways of preſerving Friendſhip among Nations, of neceſſity muſt be overturn'd and aboliſh'd. Nor can we apprehend by any argument drawn from Religion, that the Blood of the Innocent, ſhed by a propenſely malicious Murder, is not to be aveng'd. The Parlament therefore once more moſt urgently preſſes, and expects from his Royal Majeſty, according to their firſt demands, That ſatisfaction be given 'em effectually, and ſincerely in this matter.

*To the Moſt Serene Prince* Leopold, *Archduke of* Auſtria, *Governor of the* Spaniſh Low-Countries, *under King* Philip.

SO ſoon as word was brought us, not without a moſt grevious complaint, that *Jane Puckering*, an Heireſs of an Illuſtrious and Opulent Family, while yet by reaſon of her Age, ſhe was under Guardians, not far from the Houſe wherein ſhe then liv'd at *Greenwich*, was violently forc'd from the Hands and Embraces of her Attendants; and of a ſudden in a Veſſel to that purpoſe ready prepar'd, carri'd off into *Flanders*, by the treachery of one *Walſh*, who has endeavour'd all the ways imaginable, in contempt of Law both Human and Divine, to conſtrain a Wealthy Virgin to marriage, even by terrifying her with Menaces of preſent Death. We deeming it proper to apply ſome

ſpeedy

ſpeedy remedy to ſo enormous and unheard-of a piece of Villany, gave order to ſome Perſons to treat with the Governours of *Newport* and *Oſtend* (for the Unfortunate Captive was ſaid to be landed in one of thoſe two places) about reſcuing the *Free-born* Lady out of the Hands of the Raviſher. Who, both out of their ſingular Humanity and Love of Virtue, lent their aſſiſting aid to the young Virgin in ſervitude, and by down-right Robbery rifl'd from her Habitation: So that to avoid the violence of her Imperious Maſters, ſhe was as it were depoſited in a Nunnery, and committed to the charge of the Governeſs of the Society. Wherefore the ſame *Walſh* to get her again into his Clutches, has commenc'd a Suit againſt her in the Eccleſiaſtical Court of the Biſhop of *Ypre*, pretending a Matrimonial Contract between him and her. Now in regard that both the *Raviſher* and the *Raviſh'd* perſon are Natives of

our

our Countrey, as by the Witneſſes upon their Oaths abundantly appears; as alſo for that the ſplendid Inheritance after which moſt certainly the Criminal chiefly gape, lies within our Territories; ſo that we conceive that the whole cognizance and determination of this Cauſe belongs ſolely to our ſelves. Therefore let him repair hither, he who calls himſelf the Husband, here let him commence his Suit, and demand the delivery of the Perſon whom he claims for his Wife. In the mean time, this it is that we moſt earneſtly requeſt from your Highneſs, which is no more then what we have already requeſted by our Agent reſiding at *Bruſſels*, that you will permit an afflicted and many ways miſus'd Virgin, Born of Honeſt Parents, but Pyrated out of her Native Countrey, to Return, as far as lies in your power, with Freedom and Safety home agen. This not only we, upon all opportunities offer'd,

as readily prepar'd to return the ſame Favour and Kindneſs to your Highneſs, but alſo Humanity it ſelf, and that ſame hatred of Infamy, which ought to accompany all perſons of Vertue and Courage, in defending the Honour of the Female Sex, ſeem altogether joyntly to require at your hands.

*Weſtminſter, March* 28. 1650.

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*To the Moſt Serene Prince,* John *the Fourth, King of* Portugal.

UNderſtanding that *Your Majeſty* had both Honourably receiv'd our Agent, and immediately given him a favourable Audience, we thought it became us to aſſure your Majeſty without delay, by ſpeedy Letters from us, That nothing could happen more acceptable to us, and that there is nothing which we have decreed more ſacred, then not to violate by any word or deed of ours, not

not firſt provok'd, the Peace, the Friendſhip and Commerce, now for ſome time ſettl'd between us and the greateſt number of other Foreign Nations, and amongſt the reſt with the *Portugheſes*. Nor did we ſend the *Engliſh* Fleet to the Mouth of the River *Tagus* with any other intention or deſign, then in purſuit of Enemies ſo often put to flight, and for recovery of our Veſſels, which being carry'd away from their Owners by Force and Treachery, the ſame Rabble of Fugitives conducted to your Coaſts, and even to *Lisbon* it ſelf, as to the moſt certain Fairs for the Sale of their Plunder. But we are apt to believe that by this time almoſt all the *Portugheſes* are abundantly convinc'd, from the Flagitious manners of thoſe People, of their Audaciouſneſs, their Fury and their Madneſs. Which is the reaſon we are in hopes that we ſhall more eaſily obtain from your Majeſty; Firſt, That you will, as far as in you lies, be aſſiſtant to the

moſt Illuſtrious *Edvard Popham*, whom we have made Admiral of our New Fleet, for the ſubduing thoſe deteſted Freebooters; and that you will no longer ſuffer 'em together with their Captain, not Gueſts, but Pyrates; not Merchants, but the Peſts of Commerce, and Violaters of the Law of Nations, to Harbour in the Ports and under the ſhelter of the Fortreſſes of your Kingdom; but that where-ever the Confines of *Portugal* extend themſelves, you will Command 'em to be Expell'd as well by Land as by Sea. Or if you are unwilling to proceed to that extremity, at leaſt that with your leave it may be lawful for us with our proper Forces to aſſail our own Revolters and Sea Robbers, and if it be the pleaſure of Heaven, to reduce 'em into our Power. This, as we have earneſtly deſired in our former Letters, ſo now again with the greateſt ardency and importunity we requeſt of your Majeſty. By this, whether

equity

equity, or act of kindneſs, you will not only enlarge the fame of your Juſtice over all well Govern'd and Civil Nations, but alſo in a greater meaſure bind both us and the People of *England*, who never yet had other then a good opinion of the *Portugheſes*, to your ſelf and to your Subjects. Farewel.

*Weſtminſter*, 27. *April.* 1650.

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*To the Hamburghers.*

MORE then once we have Written concerning the controverſies of the Merchants, and ſome other things which more nearly concern the Dignity of our Republick, yet no Anſwer has been return'd. But underſtanding that Affairs of that nature can hardly be determin'd by Letters onely, and that in the mean time certain Seditious Perſons have been ſent to your City by ******* Authoriz'd with no

other Commiſſion then that of Malice and Audaciouſneſs, who make it their buſineſs utterly to extirpate the ancient Trade of our People in your City, eſpecially of thoſe whoſe fidelity to their Countrey is moſt conſpicuous; Therefore we have commanded the worthy and moſt eminent *Richard Bradſhaw* to reſide as our Agent among ye; to the end he may be able more at large to Treat and Negotiate with your Lordſhips ſuch Matters and Affairs, as are interwoven with the Benefit and Advantages of both Republicks. Him therefore we requeſt ye, with the ſooneſt to admit to a favourable Audience; and that in all things that Credit may be given to him, that Honour paid him, as is uſually in all Countries, and among all Nations paid to thoſe that bear his Character. Farewel.

*Weſtminſter, April* 2. 1650.

To

## *To the Hamburghers.*

*Moſt Noble, Magnificent, and Illuſtrious, our deareſt Friends.*

THAT your ſedulities in the Reception of our Agent were ſo cordial and ſo egregious, we both gladly underſtand, and earneſtly exhort ye, that you would perſevere in your good Will and Affection toward us. And this we do with ſo much the greater vehemence, as being inform'd that the ſame Exiles of ours, concerning whom we have ſo frequently Written, now carry themſelves more inſolently in your City then they were wont to do, and that they not only openly Affront, but give out threatning Language in a moſt deſpiteful manner againſt our Reſident. Therefore once more by theſe our Letters we would have the ſafety of his Perſon, and the honour due to his Quality, recommended to your Care. On

the other side, if you inflict severe and timely Punishment upon those Fugitives and Ruffians, as well the old ones as the new comers; it will be most acceptable to us, and becoming your Authority and Prudence.

*Westminster, May* 31. 1650.

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*To* Philip *the Fourth, King of* Spain.

TO our infinite sorrow we are given to understand, That *Antony Ascham*, by us lately sent our Agent to your Majesty, and under that Character most Civilly and Publickly receiv'd by your Governours; upon his first coming to your Royal City, naked of all defence and guard, was most bloodily Murther'd in a certain Inn, together with *John Baptista de Ripa* his Interpreter, Butchered at the same time. Wherefore we most earnestly request your Majesty, That deserved Punishment may be speedily inflicted upon those Parricides

cides already apprehended, as it is reported, and committed to Cuſtody, who have not only preſum'd to wound our ſelves through his ſides, but have alſo dar'd to Stabb, as it were, to the very heart, your Faith of Word and Royal Honour. So that we make no queſtion but what we ſo ardently deſire would nevertheleſs be done effectually by a Prince of his own accord ſo Juſt and Pious, though no body requir'd it. As to what remains, we make it our farther ſuit, That the breathleſs Carkaſs may be deliver'd to his Friends and Attendants to be brought back and Enterr'd in his own Countrey, and that ſuch care may be taken for the ſecurity of thoſe that remain alive, as is but requiſite, till having obtain'd an Anſwer to theſe Letters, if it may be done, they ſhall return to us the Witneſſes of your Piety and Juſtice.

*Weſtminſter, June* 28. 1650.

*To the moſt Excellent Lord,* Anthony John Lewis dela Cerda, *Duke of* Medina Celi, *Governor of* Andaluſia. *The Council of State conſtituted by Authority of Parliament: Greeting.*

WE have receiv'd Advice from thoſe moſt Accompliſh'd Perſons, whom we lately ſent with our Fleet into *Portugal* in purſuit of Traytors, and for the recovery of our Veſſels, that they were moſt civilly receiv'd by your Excellency, as often as they happen'd to touch upon the Coaſt of *Gallæcia*, which is under your Government, and aſſiſted with all things neceſſary to thoſe that perform long Voyages. This Civility of yours, as it was always moſt acceptable to us, ſo it is now more eſpecially at this time, while we are ſenſible of the ill will of others in ſome places towards us without any juſt cauſe giv'n on our ſide.

Therefore

Therefore we make it our requeſt to your *Illuſtrious Lordſhip*, that you will perſevere in the ſame good Will and Affection to us, and that you would continue your Favour and Aſſiſtance to our People, according to your wonted Civility, as often as our Ships put in to your Harbours: and be aſſur'd that there is nothing which we deſire of your Lordſhip in the way of Kindneſs, which we ſhall not be ready to repay both to you and yours, whenever the like occaſion ſhall be offer'd us.

Seal'd with the Seal of the Council,

*Weſtminſter, Nov.* 7. 1650.

*J. Bradſhaw*, Preſident.

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*To the Illuſtrious and Magnificent Senate of the City of* Dantzick.

*Magnificent and Moſt Noble Lords, our deareſt Friends,*

MAny Letters are brought us from our Merchants trading upon the Coaſt of *Boruſſia*, wherein they

they complain of a grievous Tribute impos'd upon 'em in the Grand Council of the *Polanders*, enforcing 'em to pay the Tenth part of all their Goods for the Relief of the King of *Scots*, our Enemy. Which in regard it is plainly contrary to the Law of Nations, that Gueſts and Strangers ſhould be dealt withal in ſuch a manner; and moſt unjuſt that they ſhould be compell'd to pay publick Stipends in a Foreign Commonwealth to him from whom they are, by God's Aſſiſtance, deliver'd at home; we make no queſtion but that out of reſpect to that Liberty, which as we underſtand you your ſelves enjoy, you will not ſuffer ſo heavy a Burthen to be laid upon Merchants in your City, wherein they have maintain'd a continual Amity and Commerce, to the extraordinary Advantage of the place for many years together. If therefore you think it convenient to undertake the Protection of our Merchants trading among

ye,

ye, which we aſſuredly expect as well from your Prudence and Equity, as from the Dignity and Grandure of your City; We ſhall take that care, that you ſhall be ſenſible from time to time, of our grateful Acceptance of your Kindneſs; as often as the *Dantzichers* ſhall have any dealings within our Territories, or their Ships, as frequently it happens, put into our Ports.

*Weſtminſter, Febr.* 6. 1650.

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*To the* Portugal *Agent.*

*Moſt Illuſtrious Lord,*

WE receiv'd your Letters dated from *Hampton* the 15th of this Month, wherein you ſignify, That you are ſent by the King of *Portugal* to the *Parlament* of the *Commonwealth* of *England*; but ſay not under what Character, whether of Embaſſador, or Agent, or Envoy, which

which we would willingly understand by your Credential Letters from the King, a Copy of which you may send us with all the speed you can. We would also further know, whether you come with a Plenary Commission, to give us satisfaction for the Injuries, and to make Reparation for the Damages which your King has done this Republick, protecting our Enemy all the last Summer in his Harbours, and prohibiting the *English* Fleet, then ready to assail Rebels and Fugitives, which our Admiral had pursu'd so far; but never restraining the Enemy from falling upon ours. If you return us word that you have ample and full Commission to give us satisfaction concerning all these matters, and send us withal a Copy of your Recommendatory Letters, we shall then take care, that you may with all speed repair to us upon the *Publick Faith*: At what time, when we have read the King's Letters, you

shall

ſhall have liberty freely to declare what further Commands you have brought along with you.

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*The Parlament of the Commonwealth of* England, *to the Moſt Serene Prince* D. Ferdinand, *Grand Duke of* Tuſcany, *&c.*

WE have receiv'd your Highneſs's Letters, dated *April* 22. 1651. and deliver'd to us by your Reſident, *Signor Almerick Salvetti*, wherein we readily perceive how greatly your Highneſs favours the *Engliſh Name*, and the value you have for this Nation, which not only our Merchants, that for many years have traded in your Ports, but alſo certain of our young Nobility, either Travelling through your Cities, or reſiding there for the improvements of their Studies, both teſtify and confirm. Which as they are things moſt grateful and acceptable

table to us, we also on our parts make this request to your *Highness*, that your *Serenity* will persevere in your accustom'd good Will and Affection towards our Merchants, and other Citizens of our Republick, Travelling through the *Tuscan* Territories. On the other side we promise and undertake, that as to what concerns the Parlament, That nothing shall be wanting which may any way conduce to the Confirmation and Establishment of that Commerce and mutual Friendship that now has been of long continuance between both Nations, and which it is our earnest wish and desire should be preserv'd to perpetuity by all Offices of Humanity, Civility and mutual Observance.

Seal'd with the Seal of the Parlament, and Subscribed by *William Lenthal*, Speaker of the Parlament of the Commonwealth of *England*.

*Westminster, Jan.* 20. 1651.

*The*

## *The Parlament of the Commonwealth of* England, *to the Illuſtrious and Magnificent Senate of the City of* Hamborough.

*Moſt Noble, Magnificent, and Illuſtrious, our deareſt Friends.*

THE Parlament of the Commonwealth of *England*, out of their earneſt deſire to continue and preſerve the Ancient Friendſhip and mutual Commerce between the *Engliſh* Nation and your City, not long ſince ſent thither *Richard Bradſhaw*, Eſquire, with the character of our Reſident; and among other Inſtructions tending to the ſame purpoſe, gave him an expreſs Charge to demand Juſtice againſt certain perſons within your Juriſdiction, who endeavour'd to Murther the *Preacher* belonging to the *Engliſh* Society, and who likewiſe laid impious hands upon the Deputy Preſident, and ſome of the principal Merchants of the ſame

ſame Company, and hurri'd 'em away aboard a Privateer. And although the aforeſaid Reſident upon his firſt Reception and Audience made known to your Lordſhips in a particular manner the Commands which he receiv'd from us, upon which it was expected that you would have made thoſe Criminals ere this a ſevere Example of your Juſtice; yet when we underſtood our expectations were not anſwer'd, conſidering with our ſelves what danger both our People and their Eſtates were in if ſufficient proviſion were not made for their Security and Protection againſt the malice of their Enemies; we again ſent Orders to our aforeſaid Reſident to repreſent to your Lordſhips our Judgment upon the whole Matter; as alſo to exhort and perſwade ye in the name of this Republick to be careful of preſerving the Friendſhip and Alliance contracted between this Commonwealth and your City, as alſo the Traffick and

and Commerce no leſs advantagious for the Intereſt of both; and to that end, that you would not fail to Protect our Merchants, together with their Priviledges from all Violation, and more particularly againſt the Inſolencies of one *Garmes* who has carry'd himſelf contumelioufly toward this Republick, and publickly cited to the *Chamber* of *Spire* certain Merchants of the *Engliſh* Company reſiding in your City, to the great contempt of this Commonwealth, and trouble of our Merchants; for which we expect ſuch Reparation, as ſhall be conſentaneous to Equity and Juſtice.

To Treat of theſe Heads, and whatever elſe more largely belongs to the common Friendſhip of both Republicks, we have Order'd our Reſident aforeſaid to attend your Lordſhips, requeſting that ample credit may be given

given to him in ſuch matters as he ſhall propoſe relating to theſe Affairs.

*Weſtminſter*
*Mar.* 12. 1651.

Seal'd with the Parlament Seal, and Subſcrib'd.

*Speaker*, &c.

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*The Parlament of the Commonwealth of* England, *to the Moſt Serene* Chriſtiana, *Queen of the* Swedes, Goths, *and* Vandals, *&c. Greeting.*

*Moſt Serene Queen,*

WE have receiv'd and read your Majeſty's Letters to the Parlament of *England*, dated from *Stockholm* the 26*th.* of *September* laſt, and deliver'd by *Peter Spering Silvercroon*; and there is nothing which we more vehemently and cordially deſire, then that the ancient Peace, Traffick and Commerce of long

long continuance between the *English* and *Swedes* may prove diuturnal, and every day encreaſe. Nor did we queſtion but that your Majeſty's Embaſſador was come amply Inſtructed to make thoſe Propoſals chiefly which ſhould be moſt for the Intereſt and Honour of both Nations, and which we were no leſs readily prepar'd to have heard, and to have done effectually that which ſhould have been thought moſt ſecure and beneficial on both ſides. But it pleas'd the Supreme Moderator and Governour of all things, that before he had deſir'd to be heard as to thoſe Matters which he had in Charge from your Majeſty to propound to the Parlament, he departed this Life (whoſe loſs we took with that heavineſs and ſorrow, as became perſons whom it no leſs behov'd to acquieſce in the Will of the Almighty) whence it comes to paſs that we are prevented hitherto from knowing your Majeſty's pleaſure, and that there

there is a ſtop at preſent put to this Negotiation. Wherefore we thought we could do no leſs then by theſe our Letters, which we have given to our Meſſenger on purpoſe ſent with theſe unhappy Tydings, to ſignifie to your Majeſty, how acceptable your Letters, how grateful your Publick Miniſter were to the *Parliament of the Commonwealth of* England; as alſo how earneſtly we expect your Friendſhip, and how highly we ſhall value the Amity of ſo great a Princeſs; aſſuring your Majeſty, that we have thoſe thoughts of encreaſing the Commerce between this Republick and your Majeſty's Kingdom, as we ought to have of a thing of the higheſt importance, which for that reaſon will be moſt acceptable to the *Parlament of the Commonwealth of* England. And ſo we recommend your Majeſty to the

the Protection of the Divine Providence.

*Westminster*, *March* --- 1651.

Seal'd with the Parlament Seal, and Subscrib'd,

*Speaker*, &c.

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*The Parlament of the Commonwealth of* England, *to the Most Serene and Potent Prince*, Philip *the Fourth*, *King of* Spain, *Greeting.*

THE Merchants of this Commonwealth who Trade in your Majesties Territories, make loud Complaints of extraordinary Violence and Injuries offer'd 'em, and of new Tributes impos'd upon 'em by the Governors and other Officers of your Ports and Places where they Traffick, and particularly in the *Canary* Islands, and this against the Articles of the League which both Nations have Solemnly Ratifi'd upon the

the account of Trade: the truth of which Complaints they have confirm'd by Oath. And they make it out before us, That unleſs they can enjoy their Privileges, and that their Loſſes be repair'd: Laſtly, That except they may have ſome certain Safeguard and Protection for themſelves and their Eſtates againſt thoſe Violences and Injuries, they can no longer Traffick in thoſe Places. Which Complaints of theirs being duly weigh'd by us, and believing the unjuſt proceedings of thoſe Miniſters either not at all to have reach'd your knowledge, or elſe to have been untruly repreſented to your Majeſty, we deem'd it convenient to ſend the complaints themſelves, together with theſe our Letters to your Majeſty. Nor do we queſtion but that your Majeſty, as well out of your love of Juſtice, as for the ſake of that Commerce no leſs gainful to your Subjects then our People, will command your Governors to deſiſt from

from thoſe unjuſt Oppreſſions of our Merchants, and ſo order it that they may obtain ſpeedy Juſtice, and due Satisfaction for thoſe Injuries done 'em by *Don Pedro de Carillo de Guzman*, and others, and that your Majeſty will take care that the Merchants aforelaid may reap the fruit of thoſe Articles; and be ſo far under your Protection, that both their Perſons and their Eſtates may be ſecure and free from all manner of Injury and Vexation. And this they believe they ſhall for the greateſt part obtain, if your Majeſty will be pleas'd to reſtore 'em that Expedient, taken from 'em, of a Judge Conſervator, who may be able to defend 'em from a new Conſulſhip more uneaſie to 'em; leaſt if no ſhelter from Injuſtice be allow'd 'em, there ſhould follow a neceſſity of breaking off that Commerce which has hitherto brought great Advantages to both Nations, while the Articles of the League are violated in ſuch a manner.

*To the Most Serene Prince the Duke of* Venice, *and the Most Illustrious* Senate.

*Most Serene Prince, Most Illustrious Senate, our dearest Friends,*

CErtain of our Merchants, by name *John Dickins*, and *Job Throckmorton*, with others, have made their Complaints unto us, That upon the 28th. of *November*, 1651. having Seiz'd upon a hunder'd Butts of *Caveare* in the Vessel call'd the *Swallow*, Riding in the *Downs*, *Isaac Taylour* Master, which were their own proper Goods, and Laden Aboard the same Ship in the *Muscovite* Bay of *Archangel*, and this by the Authority of our Court of Admiralty; In which Court, the Suit being there depending, they obtain'd a Decree for the delivery of the said Butts of *Caveare* into their Possession, they having first given security to abide by the Sentence of that Court;

Court; And that the ſaid Court, to the end the ſaid Suit might be brought to a concluſion, having Written Letters, according to cuſtom, to the Magiſtrates and Judges of *Venice*, wherein they requeſted liberty to cite *John Piatti* to appear by his Proctor in the *Engliſh* Court of Admiralty, where the Suit depended, and prove his Right, nevertheleſs that the ſaid *Piatti* and one *David Rutts* a *Hollander*, while this Cauſe depends here in our Court, put the ſaid *John Dickins*, and thoſe other Merchants to a vaſt deal of trouble about the ſaid *Caveare*, and ſolicite the Seizure of their Goods and Eſtates as Forfeited for Debt: All which things, and whatever elſe has hitherto bin done in our foreſaid Court, is more at large ſet forth in thoſe Letters of Requeſt aforemention'd; which after we had view'd, we thought proper to be tranſmitted to the moſt Serene Republick of *Venice*, to the end they might be aſſi-

ſtant to our Merchants in this Cauſe. Upon the whole therefore, it is our earneſt Requeſt to your Highneſs, and the Moſt Illuſtrious Senate, That not only thoſe Letters may obtain their due force and weight, but alſo that the Goods and Eſtates of the Merchants which the foreſaid *Piatti* and *David Rutts*, have endeavour'd to make lyable to Forfeiture, may be diſcharg'd; and that the ſaid Defendants may be referr'd hither to our Court, to try what Right they have in their Claim to this *Caveare*. Wherein your Highneſs, and the Moſt Serene Republick will do as well what is moſt Juſt in it ſelf, as what is truly becoming the ſportleſs Amity between both Republicks; and laſtly, what will gratefully be recompenc'd by the good Will and kind Offices of this Republick, whenever occaſion offers.

*White-Hall, Feb.* --- 1652.

Seal'd with the Seal of the Council, and Subſcrib'd, *Preſident* of the Councel.

*To*

*To the* Spaniſh Embaſſador.

*Moſt Excellent Lord,*

THE Council of State, according to a Command from the Parlament, dated the 2d. of *March*, having taken into ſerious deliberation your Excellencies Paper of the 15th. of *February*, deliver'd to the Commiſſioners of this Council, wherein it ſeem'd good to your Excellency to propoſe that a Reply might be given to Two certain Heads therein ſpecify'd as previous, returns the following Anſwer to your Excellency.

The Parlament when they gave an Anſwer to thoſe things which were Propos'd by your Excellency at your firſt Audience, as alſo in thoſe Letters which they Wrote to the moſt Serene King of *Spain*, gave real and ample demonſtrations how grateful and how acceptable that Friend-

ſhip and that mutual Alliance which was offer'd by his Royal Majeſty, and by your ſelf in his Name, would be to 'em; and how fully they were reſolv'd, as far as in them lay, to make the ſame returns of Friendſhip and Good Offices.

After that, it ſeem'd good to your Excellency, at your firſt Audience in Council upon the 19th. of *December*, *Oldſtile*, to propound to this Council, as a certain ground or method for an Auſpitious commencement of a ſtricter Amity, that ſome of their body might be nominated, who might hear what your Excellency had to propoſe, and who having well weigh'd the benefit that might redound from thence, ſhould ſpeedily report the ſame to the Council. To which requeſt of yours that ſatisfaction might be given, the Council appointed certain of their number to attend your Excellency, which was done accordingly. But inſtead of thoſe things which were expected

to

to have bin propounded, the Conference produc'd no more then the abovemention'd Paper, to which the Anſwer of the Council is this.

When the Parlament ſhall have declar'd their minds, and your Excellency ſhall have made the Progreſs as above expected, we ſhall be ready to confer with your Excellency, and to treat of ſuch matters as you ſhall propoſe in the Name of the King your Maſter, as well in reference to the Friendſhip already concluded, as the entring into another more ſtrict and binding; or as to any thing elſe which ſhall be offer'd by our ſelves in the Name of this Republick: And when we deſcend to particulars, we ſhall return ſuch Anſwers as are moſt proper, and the nature of the thing propos'd ſhall require.

*White-Hall, March* 21. 1652.

*The Parlament of the Commonwealth of* England, *to the Moſt Serene Prince,* Frederick *the Third, King of* Denemark, *&c. Greeting.*

*Moſt Serene and Potent King,*

WE have receiv'd your Majeſty's Letters, dated from *Copenhagen* the 21ſt. of *December* laſt, and deliver'd to the Parlament of the Commonwealth of *England* by the Noble *Henry Willemſem Roſenwyng de Lynſacker*, and moſt gladly perus'd 'em, with that affection of mind which the matters therein propounded juſtly merit, and requeſt your Majeſty to be fully perſwaded of this, That the ſame inclinations, the ſame deſires of continuing and preſerving the ancient Friendſhip, Commerce, and Allyance for ſo many years maintain'd between *England* and *Denemark*, which are in your Majeſty, are alſo in us. Not being ignorant, that though it has pleas'd Divine Providence,

Providence, beholding this Nation with ſuch a benign and favourable Aſpect, to change for the better the receiv'd Form of the former Government among us; nevertheleſs, that the ſame Intereſts on both ſides, the ſame common Advantages, the ſame mutual Allyance and Free Traffick which produc'd the former Leagues and Confederacies between both Nations, ſtill endure and obtain their former Force and Virtue, and oblige both to make it their common ſtudy, by rendring thoſe Leagues the moſt beneficial that may be to each other, to eſtabliſh alſo a nearer and ſounder Friendſhip for the time to come. And if your Majeſty ſhall be pleas'd to purſue thoſe Counſels which are manifeſted in your Royal Letters, the Parlament will be ready to embrace the ſame with all Alacrity and Fidelity, and to contribute all thoſe things to the utmoſt of their Power, which they ſhall think may conduce to that end. And they perſwade

themſelves that your Majeſty for this reaſon, will take thoſe Counſels in reference to this Republick, which may facilitate the good ſucceſs of thoſe things propounded by your Majeſty to our ſelves ſo deſirous of your Amity. In the mean time the Parlament wiſhes all Happineſs and Proſperity to your Majeſty and People.

*Weſtminſter, April — 1652.*

Under the Seal of the Parlament, and Subſcrib'd in its Name and by the Authority of it,

*Speaker*, &c.

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*The Parlament of the Commonwealth of* England, *to the moſt Illuſtrious and Magnificent the Proconſuls and Senators of the* Hanſe-Towns, *Greeting.*

*Moſt Noble, Magnificent, and Illuſtrious, our deareſt Friends,*

THE *Parlament of the Commonwealth of* England has both receiv'd and perus'd your Letthrs of the 16th. of *January* laſt, deliver'd by your Publick Miniſter *Leo ab Ayſema*, and by their Authority have given him Audience; at what time he declar'd the cordial and friendly Inclinations of your Cities toward this Republick, and deſir'd that the ancient Friendſhip might ſtill remain on both ſides. The Parlament therefore, for their parts, declare and aſſure your Lordſhips, That they deem nothing more grateful to themſelves, then that the ſame Friendſhip and Alliance which has hitherto

hitherto bin maintain'd between this Nation and thoſe Cities, ſhould be renew'd, and firmly ratify'd; and that they will be ready upon all occaſions fitly offer'd, what they promiſe in words ſolidly to perform in real deeds; and expect that their ancient Friends and Confederates ſhould deal by them with the ſame Truth and Integrity. But as to thoſe things which your Reſident has more particularly in Charge, in regard they were by us referr'd entire to the *Council of State*, and his Propoſals were to be there conſider'd, they tranſacted with him there, and gave him ſuch Anſwers, as ſeem'd moſt conſentaneous to Equity and Reaſon, of which your Reſident is able to give you an Account; whoſe Prudence and Conſpicuous Probity proclaim him worthy the Publick Character by you conferr'd upon him.

*Weſtminſter, April,* ---- 1652.

Under the Seal of the Parlament, in the Name, and by the Authority of it, Subſcrib'd, *Speaker*, &c.

*The*

*The Parlament of the Commonwealth of* England, *to the Illuſtrious and Magnificent Senate of the City of* Hamborough, *Greeting.*

*Moſt Noble, Magnificent, and Illuſtrious, our dearſt Friends,*

THE Parlament of the Commonwealth of *England* has receiv'd and perus'd your Letters, dated from *Hamborough* the 15th. of *January* laſt, and deliver'd by the Noble *Leo ab Ayſema*, yours and the reſt of the *Hanſeatic* Cities Reſident, and by their own Authority gave him Audience, and as to what other particular Commands he had from your City, they have referr'd 'em to the Council of State, and gave 'em Orders to receive his Propoſals and to Treat with him as ſoon as might be, concerning all ſuch things as ſeem'd to be Juſt and Equal: Which was alſo done accordingly. And as the Parlament has made it manifeſt, that

that they will have a due regard to what ſhall be propos'd by your Lordſhips, and have teſtify'd their ſingular good Will toward your City, by ſending their Reſident thither and commanding his Abode there; ſo on the other ſide they expect and deſervedly require from your Lordſhips, that the ſame Equity be return'd to them, in things which are to the Benefit of this Republick, either already propos'd, or hereafter to be propounded by our ſaid Reſident in their Name to your City, anciently our Friend and Confederate.

*Weſtminſter, April, — 1652.*

Under the Seal of the Parlament in the Name, and by the Authority of it, Subſcrib'd,

*Speaker*, &c.

*The*

*The Council of State of the Republick of* England, *to the Moſt Serene Prince* Ferdinand *the Second, Grand Duke of* Tuſcany, *Greeting,*

THE *Council of State* being inform'd by Letters from *Charles Longland*, who takes care of the Affairs of the *Engliſh* in your Highneſſes Court of *Leghorne*, That lately Fourteen Men of War, belonging to the *United Provinces*, came into that Harbour, and openly threatned to Sink, or Burn the *Engliſh* Ships that were Riding in your Port; but that your *Serenity*, whoſe Protection and Succour the *Engliſh* Merchants implor'd, gave Command to the Governour of *Leghorn*, That he ſhould Aſſiſt and Defend the *Engliſh* Veſſels; they deem'd it their duty to certify to your Highneſs how acceptable that Kindneſs and Protection which you ſo favourably afforded the *Engliſh* Nation, was to this Republick;

publick; and do promiſe your Highneſs that they will always keep in remembrance the Merit of ſo deſerving a Favour, and will be ready upon all occaſions to make the ſame returns of Friendſhip and Good Offices to your People, and to do all things elſe which may conduce to the preſervation and continuance of the uſual Amity and Commerce between both Nations. And whereas the *Dutch* Men of War, even in the time of Treaty offer'd by themſelves, were ſo highly perfidious, as to fall upon our Fleet in our own Roads, (in which foul Attempt, God as a moſt Juſt Arbiter, ſhew'd himſelf Offended and Oppoſite to their Deſign) but alſo in the Ports of Foreigners endeavour'd to Take or Sink our Merchants Veſſels; we thought it alſo neceſſary to ſend this Declaration alſo of the Parliament of the Commonwealth of *England*, to your Highneſs, the Publiſhing of which was occaſion'd by the Controverſies

verſies at preſent ariſen between this Republick and the *United Provinces*. By which your Highneſs may eaſily perceive how unjuſt and contrary to all the Laws of God and of Nations thoſe People have acted againſt this Republick; and how cordially the Parlament labour'd, for the ſake of publick Tranquility, to have retain'd their priſtin Friendſhip and Allyance.

*White-Hall, July 29. 1652.*

In the Name, and by the Authority of the Council, Subſcrib'd,

*Preſident.*

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*To the* Spaniſh *Embaſſador.*

*Moſt Excellent Lord,*

THe *Council of State*, upon mature deliberation of that Paper which they receiv'd from your Excellency,

27 *May*,

27 May / 6 of June 1652. as also upon that which your Excellency at your Audience the $\frac{6}{16}$ of this Month deliver'd to the Council, return this Answer to both those Papers. That the Parlament, &c. was always very desirous of preserving the firm Friendship and good Peace setled at present between this Republick and his Royal Majesty of *Spain*, from the time that first your Excellency signify'd the tendency of his Majesty's Inclinations that way, and was always ready to ratify and confirm the same to the Benefit and Advantage of both Nations. And this, the Councel of State in the Name, and by Command of the Parlament, in their Papers oftimes made known to your Excellency; and particularly, according to your Excellency's desire, made choice of Commissioners to attend and receive from your Excellency such Proposals as might conduce to the same purpose. At which meeting, instead of making

making ſuch Propoſals, it ſeem'd good to your Excelleney onely to propound ſome general Matters, as it were previons to a future Conference, concerning which it ſeem'd to the Council that the Parlament had in former Papers fully made known their Sentiments. Nevertheleſs, for more ample and accumulative ſatisfaction, and to remove all ſcruples from your Excellency concerning thoſe matters which they at that time propos'd, the Council in that Paper, dated 31 *March*, to *April*, declar'd themſelves ready to come to a Conference with your Excellency concerning thoſe things which you had in charge from his Royal Majeſty, as well in reference to the priſtin Amity, as to any farther Negotiation; as alſo touching ſuch matters as ſhould be exhibited by us, in the name of this Republick; and when we came to ſuch particulars as were to the purpoſe, and the nature of the thing requir'd,

requir'd, then to give convenient Anſwers. To which it ſeem'd good to your Excellency to make no Reply, nor to proceed any farther in that Affair for almoſt Two Months. About that time the Council receiv'd from your Excellency your firſt Paper, dated 27 *May*, 6 *June*, wherein you onely made this Propoſal, That the Articles of Peace and League between the Late *King Charles* and your Maſter, dated the 6/16. of *Novemb.* 1630. might be review'd, and that the ſeveral Heads of it might be either enlarg'd or left out according to the preſent condition of times and things, and the late *Alteration of Government*. Which being no more then what we our ſelves briefly and clearly ſignify'd in our foreſaid Paper of the 31 *March*, 10 *April*, the Council expected that ſome particular Articles would have bin Propounded out of that League, with thoſe Amplifications and Alterations of which you made mention; ſince

ſiuce otherwiſe it is impoſſible for us to return any other Anſwer concerning this matter then what we have already given. And whereas your Excellency in your laſt Paper ſeems to charge us with delay, the Council therefore took a ſecond review of your foreſaid Paper of the 27 of *May*, 6 of *June*, and of what was therein Propounded, and are ſtill of Opinion, That they have fully ſatisfy'd your Excellency in that former Paper, to which they can only farther add, That ſo ſoon as your Excellency ſhall be pleas'd, either out of the Leagues already made, or in any other manner, to frame ſuch conditions, as ſhall be accommodated to the preſent ſtate of Things and Times, upon which you deſire to have the foundations of Friendſhip laid on your ſide, they will immediately return you ſuch Anſwers as by them ſhall be thought Juſt and Reaſonable, and which ſhall be ſufficient

ent Teſtimonials that the Parlament ſtill perſeveres in the ſame deſires of preſerving an untainted and firm Amity with the King your Maſter, and that on their parts they will omit no honeſt endeavours, and worthy of themſelves, to advance it to the higheſt perfection.

Furthermore the Council deems it to be a part of their duty, That your Excellency ſhould be put in mind of that Paper of ours, dated *Jan.* 30. 1651. to which in regard your Excellency has return'd no Anſwer as yet, we preſs and expect that ſatisfaction be given to the Parlament, as to what is therein mention'd.

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*The*

*The Anſwer of the Council of State to the Reply of the Lords Embaſſadors Extraordinary from the King of* Danemark *and* Norway, *deliver'd to the Commiſſioners of the Council, to the Anſwer which the Council gave to their Fourteen Demands.*

TO the end that ſatisfaction may be given to the foreſaid Lords Embaſſadors in reference to the Anſwer of the Council to the Fifth, Sixth, Seventh, Eigth and Ninth Article, the Council conſents that this following Clauſe ſhall be added at the end of their Anſwers: That is to ſay, Beſides ſuch Colonies, Iſlands, Ports and Places under the Dominion of either Party, to which it is by Law provided that no body ſhall reſort upon the account of Trade or Commerce, unleſs upon ſpecial leave firſt obtain'd of that Party to which that Colony, Iſland, Port or Places belong.

The

The Receiving of any perſon into any Ship that ſhall be driven in by ſtreſs of Weather into the Rivers, Ports or Bays belonging to either Party, ſhall not render that Veſſel lyable to any Trouble or Search, by the Anſwer of the Council to the Eleventh Article, as the foreſaid Lords Embaſſadors in their Reply ſeem to have underſtood, unleſs it be where ſuch a Receiving ſhall be againſt the Laws, Statutes, or Cuſtom of that Place where the Veſſel put in; wherein it ſeems to the Council, That there is nothing of ſeverity ordain'd, but what equally conduces to the ſecurity of both Republicks.

As to the proving the Property of ſuch Ships and Goods as ſhall be caſt aſhore by Shipwrack, the Council deems it neceſſary that an Oath be Adminiſtred in thoſe Courts which are already, or ſhall hereafter be conſtituted, where the Claimers may be ſeverally heard, and every

Body's

Body's Right be determin'd and adjudg'd; which cannot be ſo clearly and diſtinctly done by Written Certificates, whence many ſcruples and doubts may ariſe, and many frauds and deceits creep into that ſort of proof, which it concerns both Parties to prevent. The Council alſo deems it juſt, that a certain time be prefix'd, before which time whoever does not prove himſelf the lawful Owner of the ſaid Goods, ſhall be excluded, to avoid Suits. But as to the manner of putting Periſhable Goods to Sale that are caſt Aſhore by Shipwrack, the Council thinks it meet to propoſe the way of ſelling by Inch of Candle, as being the moſt probable means to procure the true value of the Goods for the beſt Advantage of the Proprietors. Nevertheleſs, if the foreſaid Lords Embaſſadours ſhall propoſe any other method already found out which may more properly conduce to this end, the Council will be no hinder-

ance, but that what is juſt may be put in practice. Neither is it to be underſtood, that the conſideration of this matter ſhall put any ſtop to the Treaty.

As to the Puniſhment of thoſe that ſhall violate the propounded Treaty, the Council has made that Addition which is mention'd in their Anſwer to the Fourteenth Article for the greater force and efficacy of that Article, and thereby to render the League it ſelf more firm and laſting.

As to the laſt Clauſe of the Fourteenth Article, we think it not proper to give our Aſſent to thoſe Leagues and Alliances, of which mention is made in the foreſaid Anſwers, and which are only generally propounded, before it be more clearly apparent to us what they are. But when your Excellencies ſhall be pleas'd to explain thoſe matters more clearly to the Council, we may be able to give a more expreſs Anſwer to thoſe Particulars.

*A Re-*

*A Reply of the Council of State to the Anſwer of the foreſaid Lords Embaſſodours, which was return'd to the Six Articles propounded by the Council aforeſaid, in the Name of the Republick of* England.

THE Council having view'd the Commiſſions of the foreſaid Lords Embaſſadors, giving them Power to Tranſact with the Parlament or their Commiſſioners, concerning all things expedient to be Tranſacted in order to the reviving the old Leagues or adding new ones, believ'd indeed the foreſaid Lords to have bin furniſh'd with that Authority as to be able to return Anſwers, and Negotiate all things, as well ſuch as ſhould be propounded by this Republick, as on the behalf of the *King of Danemark and Norway*, and ſo did not expect the Replies which it has pleas'd the foreſaid Lords Embaſſadors to give to the *Firſt*, *Second*,

*Third* and *Fifth* demand of the Council; whereby of neceſſity a ſtop will be put to this Treaty, in regard it is but juſt in it ſelf, and ſo reſolv'd on in Council, to comprehend the whole League, and to Treat at the ſame time as well concerning thoſe things which regard this Republick, as thoſe other matters which concern the King of *Danemark* and *Norway*. Wherefore it is the earneſt deſire of the Council, That your Excellencies would be pleasd to return an Anſwer to our Firſt, Second, Third, and Fifth demand.

As to the Fourth Article concerning the Cuſtoms of *Gluckſtadt*, in regard they are now aboliſh'd, as your Excellencies have mention'd in your Anſwer, the Council preſſes that their Abrogation may be ratifi'd by this Treaty, leſt they ſhould be reimpos'd hereafter.

As to the Sixth Article concerning Pyracy, the Counil inſerted it, as equally appertaining to the benefit of both,

both, and to the eſtabliſhing of Trade in common, which is much diſturb'd by Pyrates and Sea-Robbers. And whereas the Anſwer of the Lords Embaſſadors, as to this Article, relates onely to Enemies, but makes no mention of Pyrates, the Council therefore deſires a more diſtinct Reply to it.

And whereas the foreſaid Lords Embaſſadors in their Reply to the Anſwer of the Council, have paſs'd over both their Tenth Article and the Anſwer of the Council to it, the Council have thought it neceſſary to add this following Article to their following Demands.

That the People and Inhabitants of the Republick of *England* Trading into any Kingdoms, Regions, or Territories of the King of *Danemark* and *Norway*, ſhall not for the future pay any more Cuſtoms, Tribute, Taxes, Duties or Stipends, or in any other manner, then the People of the *United Provinces*, or any other Fo-

reign Nation that pays the leaſt, coming in or going out of Harbour; and ſhall enjoy the ſame and as equally ample Freedom, Privileges and Immunities, both coming and going, and ſo long as they ſhall reſide in the Countrey, as alſo in Fiſhing, Tradeing, or in any other manner, which any other People of a Foreign Nation enjoys, or may enjoy in the foreſaid Kingdoms, and throughout the whole Dominions of the ſaid King of *Danemark* and *Norway*. Which Privileges alſo the Subjects of the King of *Danemark* and *Norway* ſhall equally enjoy throughout all the Territories and Dominions of the *Republick* of *England*.

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*The Council of State of the Republick of* England, *to the moſt Serene Prince*, Ferdinand *the Second, Grand Duke of* Tuſcany, *Greeting.*

*Moſt Serene Prince, our deareſt Friend,*

THE *Council of State* underſtanding as well by your Highneſs's Agent here reſiding, as by *Charles Longland*, chief Factor for the *Engliſh* at *Leghorn*, with what Affection and Fidelity your Highneſs undertook the Protection of the *Engliſh* Veſſels, putting in to the Port of *Leghorn* for ſhelter, againſt the *Dutch* Men of War threatning 'em with nothing but Ranſack and Deſtruction, by their Letters of the 29*th.* of *July* (which they hope are by this time come to your Highneſs's hands) have made known to your Highneſs how grateful and how acceptable it was to 'em; and at the ſame time ſent to your *Serenity* a Declaration of the *Parlament of the Commonwealth*

*of* England concerning the preſent Differences between this *Republick* and the *United Provinces*. And whereas the Council has again bin inform'd by the ſame *Charles Longland*, what further Commands your Highneſs gave for the ſecurity and defence of the *Engliſh* Veſſels, notwithſtanding the oppoſite endeavours of the *Dutch*, they deem'd this opportunity not to be paſs'd over, to let your Highneſs underſtand once more, how highly they eſteem your Juſtice and ſingular Conſtancy in defending their Veſſels, and how acceptable they took ſo great a piece of Service. Which being no mean teſtimony of your ſolid Friendſhip and Affection to this Republick; your Highneſs may aſſure your ſelf, that the ſame offices of Kindneſs and good Will toward your Highneſs ſhall never be wanting in us; ſuch as may be able to demonſtrate how firmly we are reſolv'd to cultivate both long and conſtantly,

to

to the utmoſt of our Power, that Friendſhip which is between your *Serenity* and this Republick. In the mean time we have expreſly commanded all our Ships upon their entrance into your Ports, not to fail of paying the accuſtom'd Salutes by Firing their Guns, and to give all other due Honours to your Highneſs.

*White Hall, Sep. --- 1652.*

Seal'd with the Council Seal, and Subſcrib'd.

*Preſident.*

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*To the* Spaniſh *Embaſſador*, Alphonſo de Cardenas.

*Moſt Excellent Lord,*

YOUR Excelleny's Letters of the $\frac{1}{11}$ of *November*, 1652. deliver'd by your Secretary, together with Two Petitions inclos'd, concerning the Ships, the *Sampſon* and

*Sun Salvadore*, were read in Council. To which the Council returns this Anſwer, That the *Engliſh* Man of War meeting with the foreſaid Ships, not in the *Downes*, as your Excellency Writes, but in the open Sea, brought 'em into Port as Enemies Ships, and therefore Lawful Prize; and the Court of Admiralty, to which it properly belongs to take Cognizance of all Cauſes of this nature, have undertaken to determin the Right in diſpute. Where all Parties concern'd on both ſides ſhall be fully and freely heard, and you may be aſſur'd that Right ſhall take place. We have alſo ſent your Excellency's requeſt to the Judges of that Court, to the end we may more certainly underſtand what progreſs they have made in their proceeding to Judgement. Of which ſo ſoon as we are rightly inform'd, we ſhall take care that ſuch Orders ſhall be given in this matter, as ſhall correſpond with Juſtice, and become the

Friend-

Friendſhip that is between this Republick and your King. Nor are we leſs confident, that his Royal Majeſty will by no means permit the Goods of the Enemies of this Commonwealth to be conceal'd and eſcape due Confiſcation under the ſhelter of being own'd by his Subjects.

*White-Hall, Nov.* 11. 1652.

Seal'd with the Council Seal, and Subſcrib'd, *William Maſham*, Preſident.

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*To the* Spaniſh *Embaſſador.*

*Moſt Excellent Lord,*

BUT lately the Council has bin inform'd by Captain *Badiley*, Admiral of the Fleet of this *Republick* in the *Streights*, that after he himſelf, together with three other Men of War, had for two days together

gether engag'd Eleven of the *Dutch*, put into *Porto Longone*, as well to repair the Damages he had receiv'd in the Fight, as alſo to ſupply himſelf with Warlike Ammunition; where the Governor of the Place perform'd all the good Offices of a moſt juſt and courteous Perſon, as well toward his own, as the reſt of the Men of War under his Conduct. Now in regard that that ſame Place is under the Dominion of the Moſt Serene King of *Spain*, the *Council* cannot but look upon the ſingular Civility of that Gariſon to be the copious fruit of that ſtricter mutual Amity ſo auſpiciouſly commenc'd; and therefore deem it to be a part of their duty to return their thanks to his Majeſty for a Kindneſs ſo opportunely receiv'd, and deſire your Excellency to ſignify this to your moſt Serene King, and to aſſure him that the *Parlament of the Commonwealth of* England will

be

be always ready to make the ſame returns of Friendſhip and Civility upon all occaſions offer'd.

*Weſtminſter, Nov.* 11. 1652.

Seal'd with the Counſel Seal, and Subſcrib'd, *William Maſham*, Preſident.

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*The Parlament of the Commonwealth of* England, *to the Moſt Serene Prince*, Ferdinand *the Second*, *Grand Duke of* Tuſcany, *Greeting.*

*Moſt Serene Prince, our deareſt Friend,*

THE *Parlament of the Commonwealth of* England has receiv'd your Letters dated from *Florence*, *Auguſt* 17. concerning the reſtitution of a certain Ship laden with Rice, which Ship is claim'd by Captain *Cardi* of *Leghorn*. And though the Judges of our Admiralty have already pronounc'd Sentence in that Cauſe againſt the foreſaid *Cardi*, and

and that there be an Appeal depending before the Delegates; yet upon your Highneſs's Requeſt, the Parlament, to teſtify how much they value the good Will and Alliance of a Prince ſo much their Friend, have given Order to thoſe who are entruſted with this Affair, that the ſaid Ship, together with the Rice, or at leaſt the full Price of it, be reſtor'd to the foreſaid Captain *Cardi*; the fruit of which Command his Proctor here has effectually already reap'd. And as your Highneſs by favourably affording your Patronage and Protection to the Ships of the *Engliſh* in your Port of *Leghorn*, has in a more eſpecial manner ty'd the Parlament to your Serenity; ſo will they, on the other ſide, take care, as often as opportunity offers, that all their Offices of ſincere Friendſhip and good-will toward your Highneſs may be ſolidly effectual and permanent; withal

withal recommending your Highneſs to the Divine Benignity and Protection of the Almighty.

*Weſtminſter, Nov.* 1652.

Seal'd with the Seal of the Commonwealth, and Subſcrib'd,

*Speaker*, &c.

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*The Parlament of the Commonwealth of* England, *to the Moſt Serene and Potent Prince, King of* Denmark. *&c.*

*Moſt Serene and Potent King,*

THE *Parlament of the Commonwealth of* England have received Information from their Admiral of that Fleet ſo lately ſent to *Copenhagen*, your Majeſty's Port, to Convoy our Merchants homeward bound, that the foreſaid Ships are not permitted to return along with him,

him, as being detain'd by your Majeſty's Command; and upon his producing your Royal Letters declaring your Juſtifications of the matter of Fact, the Parlament denies that the Reaſons laid down in thoſe Letters for the detaining of thoſe Ships are any way ſatisfactory to 'em. Therefore that ſome ſpeedy Remedy may be appli'd in a matter of ſo great moment, and ſo highly conducing to the proſperity of both Nations, for preventing a greater, perhaps, enſuing miſchief, the Parlament have ſent their *Reſident* at *Himborough*, *Richard Bradſhaw*, Eſquire, a Perſon of great Worth and known Fidelity, with expreſs Commands to Treat with your Majeſty, as their Agent alſo in *Danemark*, concerning this Affair. And therefore we entreat your Majeſty to give him a favourable Audience and ample Credit in whatever he ſhall propoſe to your Majeſty on our behalf, in

reference

reference to this matter. In the mean time recommending your Majesty to the Protection of Divine Providence.

*Westminster,*
*Nov.* 6. 1652.

Under the Seal of the Parlament, and in their Name, and by their Authority, Subscrib'd,
*Speaker*, &c.

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*The Parlament of the Commonwealth of* England, *to the Most Serene Prince the Duke of* Venice, *Greeting.*

THE *Parlament of the Commonwealth of* England has receiv'd your Highness's Letters, dated *June* 1. 1652. and deliver'd by *Lorenzo Pallutio*, wherein they not onely, gladly perceive both yours, and the cordial Inclinations of the Senate toward this Republick, but have willingly

willingly laid hold of this opportunity to declare their ſingular Affection and good Will toward the Moſt Serene Republick of *Venice*; which they ſhall be always ready to make manifeſt both really and ſincerely, as often as opportunity offers. To whom alſo all the ways and means that ſhall be propounded to 'em for the preſerving or encreaſing mutual Friendſhip and Alliance, ſhall be ever moſt acceptable. In the mean time we heartily pray that all things Proſperous, all things Favourable, may befall your Highneſs and the Moſt Serene Republick.

*Weſtminſter, December*, 1652.

Seal'd with the Parlament Seal, and Subſcrib'd,

*Speaker*, &c.

*The*

*The Parlament of the Republick of* England, *to the Moſt Serene Prince,* Ferdinand *the Second, Grand Duke of* Tuſcany, *Greeting.*

ALthough the Parlament of the Republick of *England* ſome time ſince redoubl'd their Commands to all the chief Captains and Maſters of Ships arriving in the Ports belonging to your Highneſs, to carry themſelves peacefully and civilly, and with becoming obſervance and duty to a moſt Serene Prince, whoſe Friendſhip this Republick ſo earneſtly endeavours to preſerve, as having bin oblig'd by ſo many great Kindneſſes; an Accident altogether unexpected has fallen out, through the Inſolence, as they hear, of Captain *Appleton* in the Port of *Leghorn*, who offer'd Violence to the Sentinel then doing his Duty upon the Mole, againſt the Faith and Duty which he owes this Republick, and in contempt of

of the Reverence and Honour which is juſtly owing to your Highneſs: the relation of which Action, as it was really committed, the Parlament has underſtood by your Letters of the 7th. and 9th. of *December*, dated from *Florence*; as alſo more at large by the moſt Worthy *Almeric Salvetti*, your Reſident here. And they have ſo ſincerely laid to heart your Highneſs's Honour, which is the main concern of this Complaint, that they have referr'd it to the *Council of State*, to take care that Letters be ſent to Captain *Appleton*, to come away without ſtop or ſtay by Land, in order to his giving an Account of this unwonted and extraordinary Act (a Copy of which Letters is ſent herewith enclos'd) who ſo ſoon as he ſhall arrive, and be accus'd of the Fact, we promiſe that ſuch a courſe ſhall be taken with him, as may ſufficiently teſtify that we no leſs heinouſly brook the violation of your Right, then the Infringement

of

of our own Authority. Moreover, upon mature debate concerning the recover'd Ship, call'd the *Phœnix* of *Leghorn*, which Affair is alſo related and preſs'd by your Highneſs and your Reſident here, to have bin done by Captain *Appleton*, contrary to promiſe given, whereby he was oblig'd not to fall upon even the *Hollanders* themſelves within ſight of the *Lanthorn*; and that your Highneſs, truſting to that Faith, promis'd ſecurity to the *Hollanders* upon your word; and therefore that we ought to take care for the ſatisfaction of thoſe who ſuffer damage under the Protection of your Promiſe; the Parlament begs of your Excellency to be aſſur'd, That this Fact, as it was committed without their Advice or Command, ſo it is moſt remote from their Will and Intention that your Highneſs ſhould undergo any Detriment or Diminution of your

your Honour by it. Rather they will make it their buſineſs, that ſome Expedient may be found out for your ſatisfaction, according to the nature of the Fact upon Examination of the whole matter. Which that they may ſo much the more fully underſtand, they deem it neceſſary that Captain *Appleton* himſelf ſhould be heard, who was bound by the ſame Faith, and is thought by your Excellency at leaſt to have conſented to the violation of it; eſpecially ſince he is ſo ſuddenly to return home. And ſo ſoon as the Parlament has heard him, and have more at large conferr'd with your Reſident concerning this matter of no ſmall moment, they will pronounce that Sentence that ſhall be Juſt, and Conſentaneous to that extream good-will which they bear to your Highneſs, and no way unworthy the favours by you conferr'd upon 'em. Of which,

that

that your Highneſs might not make the leaſt queſtion in the mean time, we were willing to certify your Highneſs by this Expreſs on purpoſe ſent, that we ſhall omit no opportunity to teſtify how greatly we value your Friendſhip.

*Weſtminſter, Dec.* 14. 1652.

Seal'd with the Parlament Seal, and Subſcrib'd, *Speaker*, &c.

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*The Council of State of the Republick of* England, *to the moſt Serene Prince*, Frederick, Heire *of* Norway, *Duke of* Sleſwick, Holſatia, Stormaria, Ditmarſh, *Count in* Oldenburgh *and* Delmenhort, *Greeting.*

THough it has pleas'd the Moſt Wiſe God, and Moſt Merciful Moderator of all things, beſides the Burthen which he laid upon us in common

common with our Anceſtors, to wage moſt juſt Wars in defence of our Liberty againſt Tyrannical Uſurpation, ſignally alſo to ſuccour us with thoſe Auſpices and that Divine Aſſiſtance, beyond what he afforded to our Predeceſſors, that we have bin able not only to extinguiſh a Civil War, but to extirpate the Cauſes of it for the future, as alſo to repel the unexpected Violences of Foreign Enemies; Nevertheleſs, with grateful minds, as much as in us lies, acknowledging the ſame Favour and Benignity of the Supreme Deity toward us, we are not ſo puft up with the ſucceſs of our Affairs, but that rather inſtructed in the ſingular Juſtice and Providence of God, and having had long experience our ſelves, we abominate the thoughts of War, if poſſible to be avoided, and moſt eagerly embrace Peace with all men. Therefore as hitherto we never were the firſt that violated or defir'd the violation of that Friendſhip, or thoſe

ancient

ancient Privileges of Leagues that have bin ratifi'd between us and any Princes or People whatever; ſo your Highneſs, in conſideration of your ancient Amity with the *Engliſh*, left us by our Anceſtors, may with a moſt certain aſſurance promiſe both your ſelf and your People all things equitable, and all things friendly from us. Laſtly, as we highly value, which is no more then what is juſt and reaſonable, the teſtimonies of your affection and good offices offer'd us, ſo we ſhall make it our buſineſs that you may not at any time be ſenſible of the want of ours either to your ſelf or yours. And ſo we moſt heartily recommend your Highneſs to the Omnipotent Protection of the Almighty God.

*White-Hall*, *July* --- 1653. Seal'd with the Council-Seal, and Subſcrib'd, *Preſident.*

## *To the Count of* Oldenburgh.

*Moſt Illuſtrious Lord,*

THE *Parlament of the Commonwealth of* England have receiv'd an extraordinary Congratulation from your Excellency, moſt kindly and courteouſly deliver'd to us by word of mouth by *Herman Mylius*, your Councellor and Doctor of Laws; who wiſh'd all things Lucky and Proſperous, in your Name, to the Parlament and *Engliſh* Intereſt, and deſir'd that the Friendſhip of this Republick might remain inviolable within your Territories. He alſo deſir'd Letters of ſafe Conduct, to the end your Subjects may the more ſecurely Trade and Sail from place to place; together with our Orders to our publick Miniſters abroad, to be Aiding and aſſiſting to your Excellency and your Intereſts with their good Offices and Counſels. To which Requeſts of his we willingly conſented,

conſentrd, and granted both our Friendſhip, the Letters deſir'd, and our Orders to our Publick Miniſters under the Seal of the Parlament. And though it be ſome Months ago ſince your Publick Miniſter firſt came to us, however that delay neither aroſe from any unwillingneſs on our part, to aſſent to the requeſt made in your Excellency's Name, or that your Deputy was at any time wanting in his Sedulity (whoſe Solicitations were daily and earneſt with all the Diligence and Importunity that became him, to the end he might be diſpatch'd) but onely it happen'd ſo, that at that time the greateſt and moſt weighty Affairs of the Republick were under Debate and ſerious Negotiation. Of which we thought meet to certifie your Illuſtrious Lordſhip, leſt any body through a falſe conſtruction of this delay, ſhould think thoſe Favours unwillingly or hardly obtain'd, which were moſt gladly granted by

the Parlament of the Commonwealth of *England*. In whoſe Name theſe are commanded to be Sign'd,

*Henry Scobel*, Clerk of the Parlament.

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*To the Moſt Illuſtrious and Noble Senators*, Scultets, Landam., *and Senators of the Evangelick Cantons of* Switzerland, Zurick, Bern, Glaris, Bale, Schaffhuſen, Appenzel, *alſo of the Confederates of the ſame Religion in the Countrey of the* Griſons, *of* Geneva, St. Gall, Mulhauſen *and* Bienne; *our deareſt Friends.*

YOUR Letters, moſt Illuſtrious Lords and Deareſt Confederates, dated *December* 24. full of civility, good-will, and ſingular affection toward us and our Republick, and what ought always to be greater and more ſacred to us, breathing Fraternal and truly Chriſtian

ſtian Charity, we have receiv'd. And in the firſt place we return Thanks to Almighty God, who has rais'd and eſtabliſh'd both you and ſo many noble *Cities*, not ſo much intrench'd and fortifi'd with thoſe encloſures of Mountains, as with your innate Fortitude, Piety, moſt prudent and juſt Adminiſtration of Government, and the Faith of mutual Confederacies, to be a firm and inacceſſible ſhelter for all the truly Orthodox. Now then that you, who over all *Europe* were the firſt of Mortals who after deluges of barbarous Tyrants from the North, Heaven proſpering your Valour, recover'd your Liberty, and being obtain'd, for ſo many years have preſerv'd it untainted, with no leſs Prudence and Moderation; that you ſhould have ſuch noble ſentiments of our Liberty recover'd; that you, ſuch ſincere Worſhippers of the Goſpel, ſhould be ſo conſtantly perſwaded of our Love and Affection

for the Orthodox Faith, is that which is moſt acceptable and welcome to us. But as to your exhorting us to Peace, with a Pious and Affectionate intent, as we are fully aſſur'd, certainly ſuch an Admonition ought to be of great weight with us; as well in reſpect of the thing it ſelf which you perſwade, and which of all things is chiefly to be deſir'd, as alſo for the great Authority which is to be allow'd your Lordſhips above others in this particular, who in the midſt of loud tumultuons Wars on every ſide, enjoy the ſweets of Peace both at home and abroad, and have approv'd your ſelves the beſt example to all others of embracing and improving Peace; and laſtly, for that you perſwade us to the very thing which we our ſelves of our own accords, and that more then once, conſulting as well our own, as the intereſt of the whole Evangelical Communion, have begg'd by Embaſſadors, and other publick Miniſters,

niſters, namely, Friendſhip and a moſt ſtrict League with the *United Provinces*. But how they treated our Embaſſadors ſent to 'em to Negotiate, not a bare Peace, but a brotherly Amity and moſt ſtrict League; what Provocations to War they afterwards gave us, how they fell upon us in our own Roads in the midſt of their Embaſſadors Negotiations for Peace and Alliance, little dreaming any ſuch Violence, you will abundantly underſtand by our Declaration ſet forth upon this ſubject, and ſent you together with theſe our Letters. But as for our parts, we are wholly intent upon this, by God's aſſiſtance, though proſperous hitherto, ſo to carry our ſelves, that we may neither attribute any thing to our own Strength or Forces, but all things to God alone, nor be inſolently puſt up with our Succeſs; and we ſtill retain the ſame ready Inclinations to embrace all occaſions of making a Juſt and Ho-

neſt Peace. In the mean time your ſelves, *Illuſtrious and moſt Excellent Lords*, in whom this Pious and Noble Sedulity, out of meer Evangelical Affection, exerts it ſelf, to reconcile and pacifie contending Brethren, as ye are worthy of all applauſe among men, ſo doubtleſs will ye obtain the Celeſtial Reward of Peace-makers with God; to whoſe Supreme Benignity and Favour we heartily recommend in our Prayers both you and yours, no leſs ready to make returns of all good Offices both of Friends and Brethren, if in any thing we may be ſerviceable to your Lordſhips.

*Weſtminſter*, *October*, 1653. Seal'd with the Parlament Seal, and Subſcrib'd, *Speaker*, &c.

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## *To the* Spaniſh *Embaſſador.*

*Moſt Illuſtrious Lord*,

UPON grievous Complaints, brought before us by *Philip Noel*,

*Niel*, *John Godal*, and the Society of Merchants of *Foy* in *England*, that a certain Ship of theirs, call'd the *Ann* of *Foy*, an *Engliſh* Ship by them fitted out, and laden with their own Goods, in her return home to the Port of *Foy* about *Michaelmas* laſt, was unjuſtly and without any cauſe ſet upon and taken by a certain Privateer of *Oſtend*, *Eraſmus Bruer* Commander, and the Seamen unworthily and barbarouſly us'd; The Council of State wrote to the Marquis of *Leda* concerning it (a copy of which Letter we alſo ſend enclos'd to your Excellency) and expected from him, that without delay Orders would have bin given for the doing of Juſtice in this matter. Nevertheleſs after all this, the foreſaid *Noel*, together with the ſaid Company make further heavy complaint, that altho our Letters were deliver'd to the Marqueſs, and that thoſe Merchants from that time forward betook themſelves to *Bruges* to the Court there

held for Maritime Cauſes, and there aſſerted and prov'd their Right and the Verity of their Cauſe, yet that Juſtice was deni'd 'em; and that they were ſo hardly dealt with, that though the Cauſe had bin ripe for Tryal above three Months, nevertheleſs they could obtain no Sentence from that Court, but that their Ship and Goods are ſtill detain'd, notwithſtanding the great Expences they have bin at in Proſecuting their Claim. Now your Excellency well knows it to be contrary to the Law of Nations, of Traffick, and that Friendſhip which is at preſent ſettl'd between the *Engliſh* and *Flemings*, that any *Oſtender* ſhould take any *Engliſh* Veſſel, if bound for *England* with *Engliſh* Goods; and that whatever was Inhumanly and Barbarouſly done to the *Engliſh* Seamen by that Commander deſerves a rigorous Puniſhment. The Council therefore recommends the whole matter to your Excellency, and makes it their

requeſt

requeſt that you would Write into *Flanders* concerning it, and take ſuch ſpeedy care, that this buſineſs may no longer be delai'd; but that Juſtice may be done in ſuch a manner, that the foreſaid Ship, together with the Damages, Coſts and Intereſt, which the *Engliſh* have ſuſtain'd and bin out of purſe, by reaſon of that Illegal Seizure, may be reſtor'd and made good to 'em, by the Authority of the Court, or in ſome other way; and that care be taken that hereafter no ſuch Violence may be committed, but that the Amity between our People and the *Flemings* may be preſerv'd without any Infringement.

Sign'd in the Name, and by the Command of the Council of State, appointed by Authority of Parlament.

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*To the Marquiſs of* Leda.

GREAT Complaints are brought before us by *Philip Noel*, *John Godal*, and the Company of *Foy* Merchants,

chants, concerning a Ship of theirs, call'd the *Ann* of *Foy*, which being an *Engliſh* Veſſel, by them fitted out, and laden with their own Goods, in her return home to her own Port about *Michaelmas* laſt, was taken unawares by a Freebooter of *Oſtend*, *Eraſmus Brewer* Commander. It is alſo further related, that the *Oſtenders*, when the Ship was in their Power, us'd the Seamen too inhumanly, by ſetting lighted Match to their Fingers, and plunging the Maſter of the Ship in the Sea till they had almoſt drown'd him, on purpoſe to extort a falſe Confeſſion from him, that the Ship and Goods belong'd to the *French*. Which though the Maſter and the reſt of the Ship's Crue reſolutely deni'd, nevertheleſs the *Oſtenders* carri'd away the Ship and Goods to their own Port. Theſe things, upon ſtrict enquiry and examination of Witneſſes have bin made manifeſt in the *Admiralty Court* in *England*, as will appear by the Copies of the *Affidavits*.

*Affidavits* herewith ſent your Lordſhip. Now in regard that that ſame Ship, call'd the *Ann* of *Foy*, and all her lading of Merchandize and Goods belong truly and properly to the *Engliſh*, ſo that there is no apparent reaſon why the *Oſtenders* ſhould ſeize by force either the one or the other, much leſs carry away the Maſter of the Ship, and uſe the Seamen ſo unmercifully; and whereas according to the Law of Nations, and in reſpect to the Friendſhip between the *Flemings* and *Engliſh*, that Ship and Goods ought to be reſtor'd, we make it our earneſt requeſt to your Excellency, that the *Engliſh* may have ſpeedy Juſtice done, and that Satisfaction may be given for their loſſes, to the end the Traffick and Friendſhip which is between the *Engliſh* and *Flemings* may be long and inviolably preſerv'd.

To

*To the* Spaniſh *Embaſſador.*

THE Parlament of the Commonwealth of *England* underſtanding that ſeveral of the People of this City daily reſort to the Houſes of your Excellency and other Embaſſadors and Publick Miniſters from Foreign Nations here reſiding, meerly to hear Maſs, gave Order to the *Council of State* to let your Excellency underſtand, That whereas ſuch Reſort is prohibited by the Laws of the Nation, and of very evil Example in this our Republick, and extreamly Scandalous, that they deem it their duty to take care that no ſuch thing be permitted henceforward, and to prohibit all ſuch Aſſemblies for the future. Concerning which, 'tis our deſire that your Excellency ſhould have a fair Advertiſement, to the end that henceforth your Excellency may be more careful of admitting any of the Peo-

ple

ple of this Republick to hear Maſs in your Houſe. And as the Parlament will diligently provide that your Excellencies Rights and Privileges ſhall be preſerv'd inviolable, ſo they perſwade themſelves, that your Excellency, during your abode here, would by no means that the Laws of this Republick ſhould be violated by your ſelf or your Attendants.

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*A Summary of the particular real damages ſuſtain'd by the* Engliſh *Company, in many Places of the* East-Indies, *from the* Dutch *Company in* Holland.

1. THe Damages comprehended in Sixteen Articles and formerly exhibited, Amounting to 298555 Royals ½, which is of our Money —— 74638 *l.* 15 *s.* 00 *d.*

2. We demand Satisfaction to be given for the incomes of the Iſland of *Pularon*, from the year 1622. to this

this time, of Two hundred thouſand Royals ½, beſides the future Expence, till the Right of Juriſdiction over that Iſland be reſtor'd, in the ſame condition as when it was wreſteſt out of our hands, as was by League agreed to, amounting of our Money to — 50000 *l.* 00 *s.* 00 *d.*

3. We demand Satisfaction for all the Merchandize, Proviſion and Furniture taken away by the Agents of the *Dutch* Company in the *Indies*, or to them deliver'd, or to any of their Ships bound thither, or returning home; which Sum amounts to 80635 Royals, of our Money —— —————— 20158 *l.* 00 *s.* 00 *d.*

4. We demand Satisfaction for the Cuſtoms of *Dutch* Merchandize laden on board their Ships in *Perſia*, or landed there from the year 1624, as was granted us by the King of *Perſia*, which we cannot value at leſs then Fourſcore thouſand Royals, —— ———— 2000 *l.* 00 *s.* 00 *d.*

5. We

5. We demand Satisfaction for Four Houſes Maliciouſly and Unjuſtly Burnt at *Jocatra*, together with the Warehouſes, Magazines and Furniture, occaſion'd by the *Dutch* Governour there, of all which we had Information from the Place it ſelf, after we had exhibited our firſt complaints; the total of which damage we value at ——— 50000 *l.* 00 *s.* 00 *d.*

We demand Satisfaction for 32899 Pound of Pepper taken out of the Ship *Endymion* in 1649, the total of which damage amounts to ——— 6000 *l.* 00 *s.* 00 *d.*

220796 *l.* 15 *s.* 00 *d.*

*A Sum-*

*A Summary of ſome particular damages ſuſtain'd alſo from the* Dutch Eaſt-India *Company.*

1. FOR Damages ſuſtain'd by thoſe who Beſieg'd *Bantam*, whence it came to paſs that for Six years together we were excluded from that Trade, and conſequently from an opportunity of laying out in Pepper Six hundred thouſand Royals, with which we might have laden our homeward bound Ships, for want of which lading they rotted upon the Coaſt of *India*. In the mean time our Stock in *India* was waſted and conſum'd in Mariners Wages, Proviſion and other Furniture; ſo that they could not value their Loſs at leſs then Twenty hunder'd and four thouſand Royals —— —— —— —— —— 600000 *l.* 00 *s.* 00 *d.*

2. More for Damages by reaſon of our due part loſt of the fruits in the *Molucca* Iſlands, *Banda* and *Amboyna*,

*boyna*, from the time that by the ſlaughter of our men we were thence expell'd, till the time that we ſhall be ſatisfi'd for our Loſs and Expences, which ſpace of time from the year 1622. to this preſent year 1650. for the yearly Revenue of 250000 *lib.* amounts in 28 years to ——— ——— 700000 *l.* 00 *s.* 00 *d.*

3. We demand Satisfaction for one hunder'd and two thouſand nine hunder'd fifty nine Royals, taken from us by the *Mogul*'s People, whom the *Dutch* protected in ſuch a manner, that we never could repair our Loſſes out of the Money or Goods of that People which lay in their *Junks*, which we endeavour'd to do, and was in our Power had not the *Dutch* unjuſtly defended 'em. Which loſt Money we could have trebled in *Europe*, and value at ——— ——— 77020 *l.* 00 *s.* 00 *d.*

4. For the Cuſtoms of *Perſia*, the half part of which was by the King of *Perſia* granted to the *Engliſh*,

*Anno*

*Anno* 1624. Which to the year 1629. is vrlued at Eight thouſand Royals, to which add the Four thouſand *Lib.* which they are bound to pay ſince 1629. which is now One and twenty years, and it makes up the Sum of —— 84000 *l.* 00 *s.* 00 *d.*

*From the Firſt Account* 2207961. 15 *s.*

*Sum Total* —— 1681996 *l.* 15 *s.*

*The Intereſt from that time will far exceed the Principal.*

LET-

# LETTERS

Written in the Name of

# OLIVER the Protector.

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*To the Count of* Oldenburgh.

*Moſt Illuſtrious Lord,*

BY your Letters, *dated January* 20. 1654. I have bin given to underſtand, That the Noble *Frederick Matthias Woliſog*, and *Chriſtopher Griphiander* were ſent with certain Commands from your Illuſtrious Lordſhip into *England*, who when they came to us, not onely in your Name Congratulated our having taken upon us the Government of the *Eogliſh* Republick, but alſo deſir'd that you and your Territories might be comprehended in the Peace which we are about

about to make with the *Low Countries*, and that we would confirm by our preſent Authority the Letters of ſafe Conduct lately granted your Lordſhip by the Parlament. Therefore in the firſt place we return your Lordſhip our hearty thanks for your Friendly Congratulation, as it becomes us; and theſe will let you know that we have readily granted your two Requeſts. Nor ſhall you find us wanting upon any opportunity, which may at any time make manifeſt our Affection to your Lordſhip. And this we are apt to believe you will underſtand more at large from your Agents, whoſe Fidelity and Diligence in this Affair of yours, in our Court, has bin eminently conſpicuous. As to what remains, we moſt heartily wiſh the Bleſſings of Proſperity and Peace, both upon you and your Affairs.

Your Illuſtrious Lordſhip's moſt Affectionate, *Oliver* Protector of *England*, *Scotland*, and *Ireland*, &c.

*To*

## *To the Count of* Oldenburgh.

*Moſt Illuſtrious Lord,*

WE receiv'd your Letters, dated *May* 2. from *Oldenburgh*, moſt welcome upon more then one account; as well for that they were full of ſingular Civility and Good-will toward us, as becauſe they were deliver'd by the hand of the moſt Illuſtrious Count *Antony*, your beloved Son. Which we look upon as ſo much the greater Honour, as not having truſted to Report, but with our own Eyes, and by our own Obſervation diſcern'd his Vertues becoming ſuch an Illuſtrious Extraction, his noble Manners and Inclinations, and laſtly his extraordinary Affection toward our ſelves. Nor is it to be queſtion'd but he displays to his own People the ſame fair hopes at home, that he will approve himſelf the Son of a moſt Worthy and moſt excellent Father, whoſe ſignal

Vertue

Vertue and Prudence has all along ſo manag'd Affairs, that rhe whole Territory of *Oldenburgh* for many years, has enjoy'd a profound Peace and all the bleſſings of Tranquility in the midſt of the raging confuſions of War thundring on every ſide. What reaſon therefore why we ſhould not value ſuch a Friendſhip that can ſo wiſely and providently ſhun the Enmity of all men? Laſtly, Moſt Illuſtrious Lord, 'tis for your Magnificent * Preſent that we return you Thanks; but 'tis of Right, and your Merits claim, That we are cordially

* The Horſes which threw him out of the Coach-box.

*Weſtminſter*, *June* 29. 1654.

Your Illuſtrious Lordſhip's moſt Affectionate, *Oliver*, &c.

Superſcrib'd, *To the Moſt Illuſtrious Lord*, Anthony Gunther, *Count in* Oldenburgh, *and* Delmenhorſt, *Lord in* Jehvern *and* Kniphauſen.

*Oliver*

Oliver *Protector of the Commonwealth of* England, Scotland, *and* Ireland, *&c. To the moſt Serene Prince*, Charles Guſtavus, *King of the* Swedes, Goths *and* Vandals, *Great Prince of* Finland, *Duke of* Eſthonia, Carelia, Breme, Verden, Stettin *in* Pomerania, Caſſubia *and* Vandalia. *Prince of* Rugia, *Lord of* Ingria, Wiſmaria, *as alſo Count* Palatine *of the* Rhine, *and Duke of* Bavaria, Cleves *and* Monts, *&c. Greeting.*

*Moſt Serene King,*

THough it be already divulg'd over all the world that the Kingdom of the *Swedes* is tranſlated to your Majeſty with the extraordinary Applauſe and Deſires of the People, and the free Suffrages of all the Orders of the Realm, yet that your Majeſty ſhould rather chuſe that we ſhould underſtand the welcome News by your moſt friendly Letters, then by the common voice of Fame, we thought no ſmall Argument both of your good-will toward us, and of the honour done us among the

 firſt.

firſt. Voluntary therefore, and of Right we Congratulate this Acceſſion of Dignity to your egregious Merits, and the moſt worthy guerdon of ſo much Vertue. And that it may be Lucky and Proſperous to your Majeſty, to the Nation of the *Swedes*, and the true Chriſtian Intereſt, which is alſo what you chiefly wiſh, with joynt ſupplications we implore of God. And whereas your Majeſty aſſures us, That the preſerving entire the League and Alliance lately concluded between this Republick and the Kingdom of *Sweden* ſhall be ſo far your care, that the preſent Amity may not only continue firm and inviolable, but if poſſible, every day encreaſe and grow to a higher perfection, to call it into queſtion would be a piece of impiety, after the Word of ſo great a Prince once interpos'd, whoſe ſurpaſſing Fortitude has not only purchas'd your Majeſty a Hereditary Kingdom in a Foreign Land, but alſo could

could ſo far prevail, that the moſt Auguſt Queen, the Daughter of *Guſtavus*, and a Heroeſs ſo matchleſs in all degrees of Praiſe and Maſculine Renown, that many Ages backward have not produc'd her equal, ſurrender'd the moſt juſt poſſeſſion of her Empire to your Majeſty, neither expecting nor willing to accept it. Now therefore 'tis our main deſire, your Majeſty ſhould be every way aſſur'd, that your ſo ſingular Affection toward us, and ſo eminent a ſignification of your Mind can be no other then moſt dear and welcome to us, and that no Combat can offer it ſelf to us more glorious, then ſuch a one wherein we may, if poſſible, prove Victorious in out-doing your Majeſty's Civility by our kind Offices that never ſhall be wanting.

*Weſtminſter, July* 4. 1654.

Your Majeſty's moſt Affectionate, *Oliver* Protector of the Commonwealth of *England, Scotland,* and *Ireland*, &c.

*To the most Illustrious Lord*, Lewis Mendez *de* Haro.

WHAT we have understood by your Letters, most *Illustrious* Lord, that there is an Embassador already nominated and appointed by the most Serene King of *Spain*, on purpose to come and Congratulate our having undertaken the Government of the Republick, is not onely deservedly acceptable of it self, but render'd much more welcome and pleasing to us by your singular Affection and the speed of your Civility, as being desirous we should understand it first of all from your self. For, to be so belov'd and approv'd by your Lordship, who by your Vertue and Prudence have obtain'd so great Authority with your Prince, as to preside, his equal in Mind, over all the most Important Affairs of that Kingdom, ought to be so much the more pleasing to us, as well understanding that the judgement

ment of a ſurpaſſing Perſon, cannot but be much to our Honour and Ornament. Now as to our cordial Inclinations toward the King of *Spain*, and ready propenſity to hold Friendſhip with that Kingdom, and encreaſe it to a ſtricter perfection, we hope we have already ſatisfi'd the Preſent Embaſſador, and ſhall more amply ſatisfie the other, ſo ſoon as he arrives. As to what remains, *Moſt Illuſtrious Lord*, we heartily wiſh the Dignity and Favour wherein you now flouriſh with your Prince, perpetual to your Lordſhip; and that whatever Affairs you carry on for the Publick Good, may proſperouſly and happily ſucceed.

*White-Hall*, *September*. 1654. Your Illuſtrious Lordſhip's moſt Affectionate, *Oliver*, &c.

*To the Most Serene Prince* Charles Gustavus Adolphus, *King of the* Swedes, Goths, *and* Vandals, *&c.*

BEing so well assur'd of your Majesty's good-will towards me by your last Letters, in answer to which I wrote back with the same Affection, methinks I should do no more then what our mutual Amity requires, if as I communicate my grateful Tydings to reciprocal Joy, so when contrary Accidents fall out, that I should lay open the sence and grief of my Mind to your Majesty, as my deareſt Friend. For my part this is my Opinion of my self, That I am now advanc'd to this degree in the Commonwealth, to the end I should consult in the first place, and as much as in me lies, for the common Peace of the Protestants. Which is the reason, that of necessity it behooves me more grievously to lay to heart what we are sorry to hear concerning the bloody Conflicts and mutual

mutual Slaughters of the *Bremenzers* and *Swedes*. But this I chiefly bewail, that being both our Friends, they ſhould ſo deſpiteſully Combat one againſt another, and with ſo much danger to the Intereſts of the Proteſtants; and that the Peace of *Munſter*, which it was thought would have prov'd an Aſylum and Safeguard to all the Proteſtants, ſhould be the occaſion of ſuch an unfortunate War, that now the Arms of the *Swedes* are turn'd upon thoſe whom but a little before, among the reſt, they moſt ſtoutly defended for Religions ſake; and that this ſhould be done more eſpecially at this time when the Papiſts are ſaid to Perſecute the Reformed all over *Germany*, and to return to their intermitted for ſome time Oppreſſions, and their priſtin Violencies. Hearing therefore that a Truce for ſome days was made at *Breme*, I could not forbear ſignifying to your Majeſty, upon this opportunity of-

fer'd, how cordially I desire, and how earnestly I implore the God of Peace, that this Truce may prove successfully happy for the Good of both Parties; and that it may conclude in a most firm Peace, by a commodious Accommodation on both sides. To which purpose, if your Majesty judges that my Assistance may any ways conduce, I most willingly offer and promise it, as in a thing, without question, most acceptable to the most Holy God. In the mean time, from the bottom of my heart, I beseech the Almighty to Direct and Govern all your Counsels for the common Welfare of the Christian Interest, which I make no doubt, but that your Majesty chiefly desires.

*White-Hall,*
*Octob.* 26. 1654.

Your Majesty's most Affectionate, *Oliver*, &c.

*To*

*To the Magnificent and moſt Noble, the Conſuls and Senators of the City of* Breme.

BY your Letters deliver'd to us by your Reſident *Henry Oldenburgh*, that there is a difference kindled between your City and a moſt Potent Neighbour, and to what ſtreights you are thereby reduc'd, with ſo much the more Trouble and Grief we underſtand, by how much the more we love and embrace the City of *Breme*, ſo eminent, above others, for their Profeſſion of the Orthodox Faith. Neither is there any thing which we account more ſacred in our wiſhes, then that the whole Proteſtant Name would knit and grow together in Brotherly Unity and Concord. In the mean time, moſt certain it is, that the common Enemy of the Reformed rejoyces at theſe our Diſſentions, and more haughtily every where exerts his Fury. But in regard the Controverſie which at preſent exerciſes

your contending Arms, is not within the power of our deciſion, we Implore the Almighty God, that the Truce begun may obtain a happy iſſue. Aſſuredly, as to what you deſir'd, we have written to the King of the *Swedes*, exhorting him to Peace and Agreement, as being moſt chiefly grateful to Heaven, and have offer'd our Aſſiſtance in ſo Pious a Work. On the other ſide we likewiſe exhort your ſelves to bear an equal Mind, and by no means to refuſe any honeſt conditions of Reconciliation. And ſo we recommend your City to Divine Protection and Providence.

*White-Hall*, *Feb.* 26. 1654.

Your Lordſhips moſt Affectionate, *Oliver* Protector of the *Commonwealth of* England, *&c.*

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Oliver *Protector of the Republick of* England, *To the moſt Illuſtrious Prince of* Tarentum.

YOUR Love of Religion, apparently made known in your Letters

Letters to us deliver'd, and your excelling Piety and ſingular Affection to the Reformed Churches, more eſpecially conſidering the Nobility and Splendor of your Character, and in a Kingdom too, wherein there are ſo many and ſuch abounding hopes propos'd to all of Eminent Quality that revolt from the Orthodox Faith, ſo many Miſeries to be undergone by the Reſolute and conſtant, gave us an occaſion of great joy and conſolation of Mind. Nor was it leſs grateful to us that we had gain'd your good Opinion, upon the ſame account of Religion, which ought to render your Highneſs moſt chiefly belov'd and dear to our ſelves. We call God to Witneſs, That whatever hopes or expectations the Churches, according to your Relation, had of us, we may be able one day to give them ſatisfaction, if need require, or at leaſt to demonſtrate to all men how much it is our deſire never to fail 'em. Nor ſhould we

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think any fruit of our Labours, or of this Dignity or Supream Employment which we hold in our Republick, greater, then that we might be in a condition to be ſerviceable to the enlargement, or the welfare, or which is more ſacred, to the Peace of the Reformed Church. In the mean time, we exhort and beſeech your Lordſhip to remain ſtedfaſt to the laſt minute in the Orthodox Religion, with the ſame reſolution and conſtancy, as you profeſs it receiv'd from your Anceſtors with Piety and Zeal. Nor indeed, can there be any thing more worthy your ſelf, or your Religious Parents, nor in conſideration of what you have deſerv'd of us, though we wiſh all things for your own ſake, that we can wiſh more Noble or Advantagious to your Lordſhip, then that you would take ſuch Methods and apply your ſelf to ſuch Studies, that the Churches, eſpecially of your Native Countrey, under the Diſci-

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pline of which your Birth and Genius have render'd you Illuſtriouſly Happy, may be ſenſible of ſo much the more aſſur'd ſecurity in your Protection, by how much you excel others in Luſtre and Ability.

*White-Hall, April* —— 1654.

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Oliver *the Protector*, &c. *To the moſt Serene Prince*, Immanuel *Duke of* Savoy, *Prince of* Piemont, *Greeting*.

*Moſt Serene Prince*,

LEtters have bin ſent us from *Geneva*, as alſo from the *Dauphinate*, and many other Places bordering upon your Territories, wherein we are given to underſtand, That ſuch of your Royal Highneſs's Subjects as profeſs the Reformed Religion, are Commanded by your Edict, and by your Authority, within three days after the Promulgation of your Edict, to depart their Native Seats and Habitations, upon pain of capital Puniſhment, and Forfeiture of all their

their Fortunes and Eſtates, unleſs they will give ſecurity to relinquiſh their Religion within Twenty days, and embrace the *Roman* Catholick Faith. And that when they appli'd themſelves to your Royal Highneſs in a moſt Suppliant manner, imploring a Revocation of the ſaid Edict, and that being receiv'd into priſtin favour, they might be reſtor'd to the Liberty granted 'em by your Predeceſſors, a part of your Army fell upon 'em, moſt cruelly Slew ſeveral, put others in Chains, and compell'd the reſt to Flye into Deſert places and to the Mountains cover'd with ſnow, where ſome Hundreds of Families are reduc'd to ſuch Diſtreſs, that 'tis greatly to be fear'd, they will in a ſhort time all miſerably Periſh through Cold and Hunger. Theſe things, when they were related to us, we could not chuſe but be touch'd with extream Grief and Conpaſſion for the Sufferings and Calamities of this Afflicted People. Now in regard

gard we muſt acknowledge our ſelves link'd together not onely by the ſame tye of Humanity, but by joynt Communion of the ſame Religion, we thought it impoſſible for us to ſatisfie our Duty to God, to Brotherly Charity, or our Profeſſion of the ſame Religion, if we ſhould onely be affected with a bare ſorrow for the Miſery and Calamity of our Brethren, and not contribute all our endeavours to Relieve and Succour 'em in their unexpected Adverſity, as much as in us lies. Therefore in a greater meaſure we moſt earneſtly Beſeech and Conjure your Royal Highneſs, that you would call back to your thoughts the moderation of your moſt Serene Predeceſſors, and the Liberty by them Granted and Confirm'd from time to time to their Subjects the *Vaudois*. In Granting and Confirming which, as they did that, which without all queſtion was moſt grateful to God, who has bin pleas'd to reſerve the Juriſdiction

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and Power over the Conſcience to himſelf alone, ſo there is no doubt but that they had a due conſideration of their Subjects alſo, whom they found Stout and moſt Faithful in War, and always Obedient in Peace. And as your Royal *Serenity* in other things moſt laudably follows the footſteps of your Immortal Anceſtors, ſo we again and again beſeech your Royal Highneſs not to ſwerve from the path wherein they trod in this particular; but that you would vouchſafe to Abrogate both this Edict, and whatſoever elſe may be Decreed to the Diſturbance of your Subjects upon the account of the Reform'd Religion; that you would ratifie to 'em their conceded Privileges and priſtin Liberty, and command their Loſſes to be repair'd, and that an end be put to their Oppreſſions. Which if your Royal Highneſs ſhall be pleas'd to ſee perform'd, you will do a thing moſt acceptable to God, revive and comfort the miſerable

ſerable in dire Calamity, and moſt highly oblige all your Neighbours that Profeſs the Reformed Religion, but more eſpecially our ſelves, who ſhall be bound to look upon your Clemency and Benignity toward your Subjects as the fruit of our earneſt Solicitation. Which will both engage us to a reciprocal return of all good Offices, and lay the ſolid foundations not only of eſtabliſhing, but encreaſing Alliance and Friendſhip between this Republick and your Dominions. Nor do we leſs promiſe this to our ſelves from your Juſtice and Moderation; to which we Beſeech Almighty God to encline your Mind and Thoughts. And ſo we cordially Implore Juſt Heaven to beſtow upon your Highneſs and your People the Bleſſings of Peace and Truth, and proſperous Succeſs in all your Affairs.

*White-Hall, May* — 1655.

*Oliver*

Oliver *Protector of the Republick of* England, *to the moſt Serene Prince of* Tranſilvania, *Greeting.*

*Moſt Serene Prince,*

BY your Letters of the 16*th.* of *Nov.* 1654. you have made us ſenſible of your ſingnlar good-will and affection toward us; and your *Envoy*, who deliver'd thoſe Letters to us, more amply declar'd your deſire of contracting Alliance and Friendſhip with us. Certainly for our parts, we do not a little rejoyce at this Opportunity offer'd us to declare and make manifeſt our Affection to your Highneſs, and how great a value we juſtly ſet upon your Perſon. But after Fame had reported to us your egregious Merits and Labours undertaken in behalf of the Chriſtian Republick, when you were pleas'd that all theſe things, and what you have farther in your thoughts to do in the defence and for promoting the *Chriſtian Intereſt*, ſhould be in Friendly

Friendly manner imparted to us by Letters from your ſelf, this afforded us a more plentiful occaſion of Joy and Satisfaction, to hear, that God, in thoſe remoter Regions, had rais'd up to himſelf ſo Potent and Renowned a Miniſter of his Glory and Providence: And that this great Miniſter of Heaven ſo fam'd for his Courage and Succeſs, ſhould be deſirous to aſſociate with us in the common Defence of the Proteſtant Religion, at this time wickedly aſſail'd by Words and Deeds. Nor is it to be queſtion'd but that God, who has infus'd into us both, though ſeparated by ſuch a ſpacious interval of many Climates, the ſame deſires and thoughts of defending the Orthodox Religion, will be our Inſtructor and Author of the ways and means whereby we may be aſſiſtant and uſeful to our ſelves and the reſt of the Reformed Cities, provided we watch all opportunities that God ſhall put into our hands, and be not wanting

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to lay hold of 'em. In the mean time we cannot without an extream and penetrating ſorrow forbear putting your Highneſs in mind how unmercifully the Duke of *Savoy* has Perſecuted his own Subjects, Profeſſing the Orthodox Faith, in certain Valleys at the feet of the *Alps*. Whom he has not only conſtrain'd by a moſt ſevere Edict as many as refuſe to embrace the Catholick Religion, to forſake their Native Habitations, Goods and Eſtates, but has fall'n upon 'em with his Army, put ſeveral moſt Cruelly to the Sword, others more Barbarouſly Tormented to Death, and driven the greateſt number to the Mountains, there to be conſum'd with Cold and Hunger, expoſing their Houſes to the Fury, and their Goods to the Plunder of his Executioners. Theſe things as they have already bin related to your Highneſs, ſo we readily aſſure our ſelves, that ſo much cruelty cannot but be grievouſly diſpleaſing

ſing to your ears, and that you will not be wanting to afford your Aid and Succour to thoſe miſerable Wretches, if there be any that ſurvive ſo many Slaughters and Calamities. For our parts we have Written to the Duke of *Savoy*, beſeeching him to remove his inſenc'd Anger from his Subjects; as alſo to the King of *France*, that he would vouchſafe to do the ſame; and laſtly to the Princes of the Reformed Religion, to the end they might underſtand our ſentiments concerning ſo fell and ſavage a piece of Cruelty. Which though firſt begun upon thoſe poor and helpleſs People, however threatens all that Profeſs the ſame Religion, and therefore impoſes upon all a greater neceſſity of providing for themſelves in general, and conſulting the common Safety; which is the courſe that we ſhall always follow, as God ſhall be pleas'd to direct us. Of which your Highneſs may be aſſur'd, as alſo of our ſince-

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rity and affection to your Serenity, whereby we are engag'd to wish all prosperous success to your Affairs, and a happy issue of all your Enterprizes and Endeavours, in asserting the Liberty of the Gospel and the Worshippers of it.

*White-Hall, May* — 1655.

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Oliver *Protector, to the most Serene Prince,* Charles Gustavus Adolphus, *King of the* Swedes, *Greeting.*

WE make no question but that the fame of that most rigid Edict has reach'd your Dominions, whereby the Duke of *Savoy* has totally Ruin'd his Protestant Subjects Inhabiting the *Alpine* Valleys, and commanded 'em to be extirminated from their Native Seats and Habitations, unless they will give security to renounce their Religion receiv'd from their Forefathers, in exchange for the *Roman* Catholick Superstition, and that within Twenty days at

at fartheſt; ſo that many being kill'd, the reſt Strip to their Skins and expos'd to moſt certain deſtruction, are now forc'd to wander over deſert Mountains and through perpetual Winter, together with their Wives and Children, half dead with Cold and Hunger; and that your Majeſty has laid it to heart with a Pious ſorrow and compaſſionate conſideration we as little doubt. For that the Proteſtant Name and Cauſe, although they differ among themſelves in ſome things of little Conſequence, is nevertheleſs the ſame in general and united in one common Intereſt, the hatred of our Adverſaries, alike inſenc'd againſt Proteſtants, very eaſily demonſtrates. Now there is no body can be ignorant, that the Kings of the *Swedes* have always joyn'd with the Reformed, carrying their Victorious Arms into *Germany* in Defence of the Proteſtants without diſtinction. Therefore we make it our chief requeſt,

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and that in a more eſpecial manner to your Majeſty, that you would ſolicit the Duke of *Savoy* by Letters, and by interpoſing your intermediating Authority, endeavour to avert the horrid Cruelty of this Edict, if poſſible, from People no leſs Innocent then Religious. For we think it ſuperfluous to admoniſh your Majeſty, whither theſe rigorous begininnings tend, and what they threaten to all the Proteſtants in general. But if he rather chuſe to liſten to his Anger then to our joynt Intreaties and Interceſſions, if there be any Tye, any Charity or Communion of Religion to be Believ'd and Worſhipp'd, upon Conſultations duly firſt communicated to your Majeſty and the chief of the Proteſtant Princes, ſome other courſe is to be ſpeedily taken, that ſuch a numerous multitude of our Innocent Brethren may not miſerably Periſh for want of Succour and Aſſiſtance. Which in regard we make no queſtion but that it is your

Majeſty's

Majeſties Opinion and Determination, there can be nothing in our opinion more prudently reſolv'd, then to joyn our Reputation, Authority, Councels, Forces, and whatever elſe is needful, with all the ſpeed that may be, in purſuance of ſo Pious a deſign. In the mean time we beſeech Almighty God to Bleſs your Majeſty.

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Oliver *Protector*, &c. *to the High and Mighty Lords, the States of the* United Provinces.

WE make no queſtion but that you have already bin inform'd of the Duke of *Savoy*'s Edict, ſet forth againſt his Subjects Inhabiting the Valleys at the feet of the *Alps*, Ancient Profeſſors of the Orthodox Faith; by which Edict they are commanded to abandon their Native Habitations, ſtript of all their fortunes, unleſs within Twenty days they embrace the *Roman Faith*; and with

what Cruelty the Authority of this Edict has rag'd againſt a needy and harmleſs People; many being ſlain by the Soldiers, the reſt Plunder'd and driven from their Houſes together with their Wives and Children, to combat Cold and Hunger among deſert Mountains, and perpetual Snow. Theſe things with what commotion of Mind you heard related, what a fellow-feeling of the Calamities of Brethren pierc'd your breaſts, we readily conjecture from the depth of our own Sorrow, which certainly is moſt Heavy and Afflictive. For being engag'd together by the ſame tye of Religion, no wonder we ſhould be ſo deeply mov'd with the ſame Affections upon the dreadful and undeſerved Sufferings of our Brethren. Beſides, that your conſpicuous Piety and Charity toward the Orthodox, where-ever overborn and oppreſs'd, has bin frequently experienc'd in the moſt urging ſtreights and calamities of the Churches. For

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my own part, unleſs my thoughts deceive me, there is nothing wherein I ſhould deſire more willingly to be overcome, then in Good will and Charity toward Brethren of the ſame Religion afflicted and wrong'd in their quiet Enjoyments; as being one that would be accounted always ready to prefer the Peace and Safety of the Churches before my particular Intereſts. So far therefore as hitherto lay in our power, we have Written to the Duke of *Savoy*, even almoſt to Supplication, beſeeching him that he would admit into his breaſt more placid thoughts and kinder effects of his Favour toward his moſt Innocent Subjects and Suppliants; that he would reſtore the Miſerable to their Habitations and Eſtates, and grant 'em their priſtin freedom in the Exerciſe of their Religion. Moreover we Wrote to the chiefeſt Princes and Magiſtrates of the *Proteſtants*, whom we thought moſt nearly concern'd in theſe mat-

ters, that they would lend us their Assistance to intreat and pacifie the Duke of *Savoy* in their behalf. And we make no doubt now but you have done the same, and perhaps much more. For this so dangerous a president, and lately renew'd severity of utmost Cruelty toward the Reformed, if the Authors of it meet with prosperous Success, to what apparent dangers it reduces our Religion, we need not admonish your Prudence. On the other side, if the Duke shall once but permit himself to be atton'd and won by our united Applications, not onely our Afflicted Brethren, but we our selves shall reap the noble and abounding Harvest and Reward of this laborious Undertaking. But if he still persist in the same obstinate Resolutions of reducing to utmost extremity those People, among whom our Religion was either disseminated by the first Doctors of the Gospel, and preserv'd from the defilement of Superstition,

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or elſe reſtor'd to its Priſtin ſincerity long before other Nations obtain'd that felicity; and determins their utter extirpation and deſtruction; we are ready to take ſuch other Courſe and Counſels with your ſelves, in common with the reſt of our Reformed Friends and Confederates, as may be moſt neceſſary for the preſervation of Juſt and Good men upon the brink of inevitable Ruin, and to make the Duke himſelf ſenſible, that we can no longer neglect the heavy Oppreſſions and Calamities of our Orthodox Brethren. Farewel.

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*To the Evangelick Cities of* Switzerland.

WE make no queſtion but the late Calamity of the *Piemontois*, Profeſſing our Religion, reached your Ears, before the unwelcome News of it arriv'd with us. Who being a People under the Protection and Juriſdiction of the Duke of *Savoy*,

*voy*, and by a ſevere Edict of their Prince Commanded to depart their Native Habitations, unleſs within Three days they gave ſecurity to embrace the *Roman* Religion, ſoon after were aſſail'd by Armed Violence, that turn'd their Dwellings into Slaughter-houſes, while others, without Number, were terrifi'd into Baniſhment, where now Naked and Afflicted, without Houſe or Home, or any Covering from the Weather, and ready to periſh through Hunger and Cold, they miſerably wander thorough deſert Mountains, and depths of Snow, together with their Wives and Children. And far leſs reaſon have we to doubt, but that, ſo ſoon as they came to your knowledge, you laid theſe things to heart, with a Compaſſion no leſs ſenſible of their multipli'd Miſeries, then our ſelves; the more deeply imprinted perhaps in your minds, as being next Neighbours to the ſufferers. Beſides, that we

we have abundant proof of your ſingular Love and Affection for the Orthodox Faith, of your conſtancy in retaining it, and your Fortitude in defending it. Seeing then, by the moſt ſtrict Communion of Religion, that you, together with our ſelves, are all Brethren alike, or rather one body with thoſe unfortunate People, of which no member can be Afflicted without the feeling, without pain, without the detriment and hazard of the reſt; we thought it convenient to Write to your Lordſhips concerning this matter, and let you underſtand, how much we believe it to be the general Intereſt of us all, as much as in us lies, with our common Aid and Succour, to relieve our extirminated and indigent Brethren; and not only to take care for removing their Miſeries and Afflictions, but alſo to provide, that the miſchief ſpread no farther, nor incroach upon our ſelves in general, encourag'd

by Example and Succeſs. We have Written Letters to the Duke of *Savoy*, wherein we have moſt earneſtly beſought him out of his wonted Clemency, to deal more gently and mildly with his moſt faithful Subjects, and to reſtore 'em, almoſt Ruin'd as they are, to their Goods and Habitations. And we are in hopes, that by theſe our Intreaties, or rather by the united Interceſſions of us all, the moſt Serene Prince at length will be atton'd, and grant what we have requeſted with ſo much Importunity. But if his mind be obſtinately bent to other determinations, we are ready to communicate our Conſultations with yours, by what moſt prevalent means to relieve and re-eſtabliſh moſt Innocent men, and our moſt dearly beloved Brethren in Chriſt, tormented and overlaid with ſo many Wrongs and Oppreſſions; and preſerve 'em from inevitable and undeſerved

ſerved Ruin. Of whoſe welfare and Safety, as I am aſſur'd, that you according to your wonted Piety, are moſt cordially tender; ſo, for our own parts, we cannot but in our opinion prefer their preſervation before our moſt important Intereſts, even the ſafeguard of our own life. Farewel.

*Weſtminſter, May*, 19. 1655.

*O. P.*

*Superſcrib'd*, To the moſt Illuſtrious and Potent Lords, the Conſuls and Senators of the Proteſtant Cantons and Confederate Cities of *Switzerland*, Greeting.

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*To the moſt Serene and Potent Prince*, Lewis *King of* France,

*Moſt Serene and Potent King*,

BY your Majeſty's Letters which you Wrote in anſwer to ours of the 25th. of *May*, we readily underſtand, that we fail'd not in our Judgement, that the inhuman

Slaughter and barbarous Maſſacres of thoſe men, who profeſs the Reformed Religion in *Savoy*, perpetrated by ſome of your Regiments, were the Effects neither of your Orders nor Commands. And it afforded us a ſingular occaſion of Joy, to hear that your Majeſty had ſo timely ſignifi'd to your Collonels and Officers, whoſe violent precipitancy engag'd 'em in thoſe inhuman Butcheries without the encouragement of Lawful Allowance, how diſpleaſing they were to your Majeſty; that you had admoniſh'd the Duke himſelf to forbear ſuch Acts of Cruelty; and that you had interpos'd with ſo much Fidelity and Humanity, all the high Veneration paid you in that Court, your near Alliance and Authority, for reſtoring to their ancient Abodes thoſe unfortunate Exiles. And it was our hopes, That that Prince would in ſome meaſure have condeſcended to the good Pleaſure and Interceſſions of

of your Majeſty. But finding not any thing obtain'd either by your own, nor the Intreaties and Importunities of other Princes in the Cauſe of the Diſtreſſed, we deem'd it not foreign from our duty, to ſend this noble Perſon, under the Character of our extraordinary Envoy, to the Duke of *Savoy*, more amply and fully to lay before him, how deeply ſenſible we are of ſuch exaſperated Cruelties inflicted upon the Profeſſors of the ſame Religion with our ſelves, and all this too out of a hatred of the ſame Worſhip. And we have reaſon to hope a ſucceſs of this Negotiation ſo much the more proſperous, if your Majeſty would vouchſafe to employ your Authority and Aſſiſtance once again with ſo much the more urgent importunity; and as you have undertaken for thoſe Indigent People that they will be Faithful and Obedient to their Prince, ſo you would be gratiouſly pleas'd to take care of their Welfare

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and Safety, that no farther Oppreſſions of this nature, no more ſuch diſmal Calamities may be the portion of the Innocent and Peaceful. This being truly Royal and Juſt in it ſelf, and highly agreeable to your Benignity and Clemency, which every where protects in ſoft ſecurity ſo many of your Subjects profeſſing the ſame Religion, we cannot but expect, as it behoves us, from your Majeſty. Which Act of yours, as it will more cloſely bind to your Subjection all the *Proteſtants* throughout your ſpacious Dominions, *whoſe Affection and Fidelity to your Predeceſſors and your ſelf in moſt important Diſtreſſes have bin often conſpicuouſly made known*; ſo will it fully convince all Foreign Princes, that the Advice or Intention of your Majeſty were no way contributory to this prodigious Violence, whatever inflam'd your Miniſters and Officers to promote it. More eſpecially, if your Majeſty ſhall inflict deſerved puniſhment upon

upon thoſe Captains and Miniſters, who of their own Authority, and to gratifie their own Wills, adventur'd the perpetrating ſuch dreadful Acts of Inhumanity. In the mean while, ſince your Majeſty has aſſur'd us of your juſtly merited averſion to theſe moſt inhuman and cruel Proceedings, we doubt not but you will afford a ſecure Sanctuary and Shelter within your Kingdom to all thoſe miſerable Exiles that ſhall flye to your Majeſty for Protection; and that you will not give permiſſion to any of your Subjects to aſſiſt the Duke of *Savoy* to their prejudice. It remains that we make known to your Majeſty, how highly we eſteem and value your Friendſhip: In teſtimony of which, we farther affirm there ſhall never be wanting upon all occaſions the real aſſurances and effects of our Proteſtation.

Your Majeſty's moſt Affectionate, *Oliver* Protector of the Commonwealth of *England*, &c.

*White-Hall, July* 29. 1655.

*To*

*To the most Eminent Lord, Cardinal* Mazarine.

*Most Eminent Lord Cardinal,*

HAving deem'd it necessary to send this Noble Person to the King with Letters, a Copy of which is here enclos'd, we gave him also farther in Charge to Salute your Excellency in our Name, as having entrusted to his Fidelity certain other matters to be communicated to your Eminency. In reference to which Affairs, I intreat your Eminency, to give him entire Credit, as being a Person in whom I have repos'd a more then ordinary confidence.

*White-Hall, July* 29. 1655.

Your Eminencies most Affectionate, *Oliver* Protector of the Commonwealth of *England.*

*Oliver*

Oliver *Protector of the Commonwealth of* England, *to the moſt Serene Prince,* Frederick III. *King of* Danemark, Norway, *&c.*

WITH what a ſevere and unmerciful Edict *Immanuel* Duke of *Savoy* has expell'd from their Native Seats his Subjects inhabiting the Valleys of *Piemont*, men otherwiſe harmleſs, onely for many years remarkably famous for embracing the Purity of Religion; and after a dreadful Slaughter of ſome numbers, how he has expos'd the reſt to the hardſhips of thoſe deſert Mountains, Stript to their Skins, and barr'd from all relief, we believe your Majeſty has long ſince heard, and doubt not but that your Majeſty is touch'd with a real commiſeration of their Sufferings, as becomes ſo puiſſant a Defender and Prince of the Reformed Faith. For indeed the Inſtitutions of Chriſtian Religion require, that whatever Miſchiefs and

and Miſeries any part of us undergo, it ſhould behove us all to be deeply ſenſible of the ſame: Nor does any man better then your Majeſty foreſee, if we may be thought able to give a right conjecture of your Piety and Prudence, what dangers the ſucceſs and example of this fact portend to our ſelves in particular, and to the whole Proteſtant name in general. We have written the more willingly to your ſelf, to the end we might aſſure your Majeſty, that the ſame ſorrow which we hope you have conceiv'd for the Calamity of our moſt Innocent Brethren, the ſame opinion, the ſame judgment you have of the whole matter, is plainly and ſincerely our own. We have therefore ſent our Letters to the Duke of *Savoy*, wherein we have moſt importunately beſought him to ſpare thoſe miſerable People that implore his mercy; and that he would no longer ſuffer that dreadful Edict to be in force. Which if your Majeſty and

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the reſt of the Reformed Princes would vouchſafe to do, as we are apt to belive they have already done, there is ſome hope that the Anger of the moſt Serene Duke may be aſſwag'd, and that his Indignation will relent upon the Interceſſion and Importunities of his Neighbour Princes. Or if he perſiſt in his Determinations, we proteſt our ſelves ready, together with your Majeſty, and the reſt of our Confederates of the Reformed Religion, to take ſuch ſpeedy methods as may enable us, as far in us lies, to relieve the diſtreſſes of ſo many miſerable Creatures, and provide for their Liberty and Safety. In the mean time we beſeech Almighty God to bleſs your Majeſty with all Proſperity.

*White Hall, May* —— 1655.

*Oliver*

Oliver *Protector of the Commonwealth of* England, *&c. to the moſt Noble the Conſuls and Senators of the City of* Geneva.

WE had before made known to your Lordſhips our exceſſive Sorrow for the heavy and unheard of Calamities of the Proteſtants Inhabiting the Valleys of *Piemont*, whom the Duke of *Savoy* Perſecutes with ſo much Cruelty, but that we made it our buſineſs that you ſhould at the ſame time underſtand, that we are not onely affected with the multitude of their ſufferings, but are uſing the utmoſt of our endeavours to Relieve and Comfort 'em in their diſtreſſes. To that purpoſe we have taken care for a gathering of Alms to be made throughout this whole Republick; which upon good grounds we expect will be ſuch, as will demonſtrate the affection of this Nation toward their Brethren labouring under the burthen of ſuch horrid Inhumanities; and that as the

the Communion of Religion is the ſame between both People, ſo the ſence of their Calamities is no leſs the ſame. In the mean time while the Collections of the Money go forward, which in regard they will require ſome time to accompliſh, and for that the Wants and Neceſſities of thoſe deplorable People will admit of no delay, we thought it requiſite to remit beforehand Two thouſand Pounds of the Value of *England*, with all poſſible ſpeed to be diſtributed among ſuch as ſhall be judg'd to be moſt in preſent need of Comfort and Succour. Now in regard we are not ignorant how deeply the miſeries and wrongs of thoſe moſt innocent people have affected your ſelves, and that you will not think amiſs of any Labour or Pains where you can be aſſiſting to their Relief, we made no ſcruple to commit the Paying and Diſtributing this Sum of Money to your Care; and to give ye this farther

trouble,

trouble, that according to your wonted Piety and Prudence, you would take care that the ſaid Money made be diſtributed equally to the moſt Neceſſitous, to the end that though the Sum be ſmall, yet there may be ſomething to Refreſh and Revive the moſt Poor and Needy, till we can afford 'em a more plentiful Supply. And thus, not making any doubt but you will take in good part the trouble impos'd upon ye, we beſeech Almighty God to ſtir up the hearts of all his People Profeſſing the Orthodox Religion, to reſolve upon the common Defence of themſelves, and the mutual Aſſiſtance of each other againſt their imbitter'd and moſt implacable Enemies: In the proſecution of which we ſhould rejoyce that our helping hand might be any way ſerviceable to the Church. Farewel.

*Fifteen hundred Pounds of the foreſaid Two thouſand will be remitted by*

*by* Gerard Hench *from* Paris, *and the other Five hundred Pounds will be taken care of by Letters from the Lord* Stoup.

*June* 8. 1655.

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Oliver *Protector of the Commonwealth of* England, *&c. to the moſt Serene Prince, the Duke of* Venice.

*Moſt Serene Prince,*

AS it has bin always a great occaſion of rejoycing to us when ever any proſperous Succeſs attended your Arms, but more eſpecially againſt the Common Enemy of the Chriſtian Name; ſo neither are we ſorry for the late Advantage gain'd by your Fleet, though as we underſtand, it happen'd not a little to the Detriment of our People. For certain of our Merchants, *William* and *Daniel Williams* and *Edward Beale*, have ſet forth in a Petition preſented to us, that a Ship of theirs, call'd the *Great Prince*, was lately ſent by them

them with Goods and Merchandize to *Conſtantinople*, where the ſaid Ship was detain'd by the Miniſters of the *Port*, to carry Soldiers and Proviſions to *Creet*; and that the ſaid Ship being conſtrain'd to Sail along with the ſame Fleet of the *Turks*, which was ſet upon and vanquiſh'd by the Gallies of the *Venetians*, was taken, carri'd away to *Venice*, and there adjudg'd Lawful Prize by the Judges of the Admiralty. Now therefore in regard the ſaid Ship was Preſs'd by the *Turks*, and forc'd into their Service without the Knowledge or Conſent of the Owners directly or indirectly obtain'd, and that it was impoſſible for her, being Ship'd with Soldiers, to withdraw from the Engagement, we moſt earneſtly requeſt your Serenity, That you will remit that ſentence of your Admiralty, as a Preſent to our Friendſhip, and take ſuch care that the Ship may be reſtor'd to the Owners, no way deſerving the

diſpleaſure

displeasure of your Republick by any Act of theirs. In the obtaining of which request, more especially upon our Intercession, while we find the Merchants themselves so well assur'd of your Clemency, It behoves us not to question it. And so we beseech the Almighty God to continue his prosperous Blessings upon your Noble, Designs and the *Venetian* Republick.

*Westminster, December* --- 1655. Your Serenity's, and the *Venetian* Republick's, most Affectionate, *Oliver* Protector of the Commonwealth of *England*, &c.

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Oliver *Protector of the Commonwealth of* England, *&c. to the most Serene Prince,* Lewis *King of* France.

*Most Serene King,*

CErtain of our Merchants, by name, *Samuel Mico*, *William Cockain*, *George Poyner*, and several others, in a Petition to us have set forth

forth, That in the year 1650. they Laded a Ship of theirs, call'd the *Unicorn*, with Goods of a very conſiderable value; and that the ſaid Ship being thus Laden with Silk, Oyl and other Merchandize, amounting to above Thirty four thouſand of our Pounds, was taken by the Admiral and Vice-Admiral of your Majeſty's Fleet in the *Mediterranean* Sea. Now it appears to us, that our People who were then in the Ship, by reaſon there was at that time a Peace between the *French* and us, that never had bin violated in the leaſt, were not willing to make any Defence againſt your Majeſty's Royal Ships, and therefore over-rul'd beſides by the fair Promiſes of the Captains *Paul*, and *Terrery*, who faithfully engag'd to diſmiſs our People, they paid their Obedience to the Maritime Laws, and produc'd their Bills of Lading. Moreover, we find that the Merchants aforeſaid, ſent their Agent into *France* to demand

Reſtitution

Reſtitution of the ſaid Ship and Goods: And then it was, that after above Three years ſlipt away, when the Suit was brought ſo far that Sentence of Reſtitution or Condemnation was to have bin given; that his Eminency Cardinal *Mazarine* acknowledg'd to their Factor *Hugh Morel*, the wrong that had bin done the Merchants, and undertook that Satisfaction ſhould be given, ſo ſoon as the League between the two Nations, which was then under Negotiation, ſhould be Ratifi'd and Confirm'd. Nay, ſince that, his Excellency M. *de Bourdeaux*, your Majeſty's Embaſſador, aſſur'd us in expreſs Words, by the Command of your Majeſty and your Council, That care ſhould be taken of that Ship and Goods in a particular Exception, apart from thoſe controverſies, for the deciſion of which a general proviſion was made by the League; of which promiſe, the Embaſſador, now opportunely arriv'd here to ſo-

licit ſome buſineſs of his own, is a Teſtimony no way to be queſtion'd. Which being true, and the Right of the Merchants in redemanding their Ship and Goods ſo undeniably apparent, we moſt earneſtly requeſt your Majeſty, that they may meet with no delay in obtaining what is juſtly their due, but that your Majeſty will admit the grant of this Favour, as the firſt fruits of our reviv'd Amity and the lately renew'd League between us. The refuſal of which, as we have no reaſon to doubt, ſo we beſeech Almighty God to Bleſs with all Proſperity both your Majeſty and your Kingdom.

*Weſtminſter, Decemb.*--- 1655.

Your Majeſty's moſt Affectionate, *Oliver* Protector of the Commonwealth of *England, Scotland,* and *Ireland,* &c.

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*To the Evangelic Cities of* Switzerland.

IN what condition your Affairs are, which is not the beſt, we are

are abundantly inform'd, as well by your publick Acts tranſmitted to us by our Agent at *Geneva*, as alſo by your Letters from *Zurick*, bearing date the 27*th.* of *December*. Whereby, although we are ſorry to find your Peace, and ſuch a laſting League of Confederacy broken; nevertheleſs ſince it appears to have happen'd through no fault of yours, we are in hopes that the Iniquity and perverſeneſs of your Adverſaries are contriving new occaſions for ye to make known your long-ago experienc'd Fortitude and Reſolution in Defence of the *Evangelick* Faith. For as for thoſe of the Canton of *Schwits*, who account it a Capital Crime for any perſon to embrace our Religion, what they are might and main deſigning, and whoſe inſtigations have incens'd 'em to reſolutions of Hoſtility againſt the Orthodox Religion, no body can be ignorant, who has not yet forgot that moſt deteſtable Slaughter of our Brethren in

*Piemont.* Wherefore, moſt beloved Friends, what you were always wont to be, with God's aſſiſtance ſtill continue, Magnanimous and Reſolute; ſuffer not your Privileges, your Confederacies, the Liberty of your Conſciences, your Religion it ſelf to be trampled under foot by the Worſhippers of Idols; and ſo prepare your ſelves, that you may not ſeem to be the Defenders onely of your own Freedom and Safety, but be ready likewiſe to Aid and Succour, as far as in you lies, your Neighbouring Brethren, more eſpecially thoſe moſt deplorable *Piedmontois*; as being certainly convinc'd of this, that a Paſſage was lately intended to have bin open'd over their Slaughter'd bodies to your ſides. As for our part, be aſſur'd, that we are no leſs anxious and ſolicitous for your Welfare and Proſperity, then if this conflagration had broken forth in our Republick; or as if the Axes of the *Schwits-Canton* had bin ſharpen'd for

our

our Necks, or that their Swords had bin drawn againſt our Breaſts, as indeed they were againſt the boſoms of all the Reformed. Therefore ſo ſoon as we were inform'd of the condition of your Affairs, and the obſtinate Animoſities of your Enemies, adviſing with ſome ſincere and honeſt Perſons, together with ſome Miniſters of the Church moſt eminent for their Piety, about ſending to your Aſſiſtance ſuch Succour as the preſent poſture of our Affairs would permit, we came to thoſe Reſults, which our Envoy *Pell* will impart to your conſideration. In the mean time we ceaſe not to implore the Bleſſing of the Almighty upon all your Counſels, and the Protection of your moſt juſt Cauſe as well in War as in Peace.

*Weſtminſter, Jan.* --- 1655.

Your Lordſhips and Worſhips moſt Affectionate, *Oliver* Protector of the Commonwealth of *England*, &c.

Oliver *Protector of the Commonwealth of* England *&c. to the moſt Serene Prince* Charles Guſtavus, *by the Grace of God King of the* Swedes, Goths *and* Vandals, *Great Prince of* Finland, *&c.*

*Moſt Serene King,*

SEeing it is a thing well known to all men, that there ought to be a Communication of concerns among Friends, whether in Proſperity or Adverſity; it cannot be, but moſt grateful to us, that your Majeſty ſhould vouchſafe to impart unto us by your Letters the moſt pleaſing and delightful part of your Friendſhip, which is your joy. In regard it is a mark of ſingular Civility, and truly Royal, as not to live onely to a man's ſelf, ſo neither to rejoyce alone, unleſs he be ſenſible that his Friends and Confederates partake of his gladneſs. Certainly then, we have reaſon to rejoyce for the Birth of a young Prince Born to ſuch an excellent King, and ſent into the world

to

to be the Heir of his Father's Glory and Vertue; and this at ſuch a lucky ſeaſon, that we have no leſs cauſe to Congratulate the Royal Parent with the memorable Omen that befel the Famous *Philip* of *Macedon*, who at the ſame time receiv'd the Tydings of *Alexander*'s Birth, and the Conqueſt of the *Illyrians*. For we make no queſtion, but the wreſting of the Kingdom of *Poland* from Papal Subjection, as it were a Horn diſmembred from the Head of the Beaſt, and the Peace ſo much deſir'd by all Good men, concluded with the Duke of *Brandenburgh* will be moſt highly conducing to the Tranquility and Advantage of the Church. Heaven grant a concluſion correſpondent to ſuch ſignal beginnings; and may the Son be like the Father in Vertue, Piety, and Renown, obtain'd by great Atchievments. Which is that we wiſh may luckily come to paſs, and which

we beg of the Almighty, ſo propitious hitherto to your Affairs.

*Weſtminſter*, *Feb.* --- 1655.

Your Majeſty's moſt Affectionate, *Oliver* Protector of the *Commonwealth of* England, *&c.*

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*To the King of* Danemark.

*Moſt Serene and Potent Prince,*

*John Freeman* and *Philip Traveſs*, Citizens of this Republick, by a Petition preſented to us, in their own and the Name of ſeveral other Merchants of *London*, have made a complaint, That whereas about the Month of *March* in the year 1653. they Freighted a certain Ship of *Sunderburgh*, call'd the *Saviour*, *Nicolas Weinskinks* Maſter, with Woollen Cloth, and other Commodities to the Value of above Three thouſand Pound, with Orders to the Maſter, That he ſhould Sail directly up the *Baltick* for *Dantzick*, paying the uſual Tribute at *Elſenore*, to which purpoſe

poſe in particulor they gave him Money; nevertheleſs that the ſaid Maſter, Perfidiouſly and contrary to the Orders of the ſaid Merchants, ſlipping by *Elſenore* without paying the uſual Duty, thought to have proceeded in his Voyage, but that the Ship for this reaſon was immediately Seiz'd and detain'd with all her Lading. After due conſideration of which Complaints, we Wrote in favour of the Merchants to your Majeſty's Embaſſador reſiding at *London*, who promis'd, as they ſay, that as ſoon as he return'd to your Majeſty, he would take care that the Merchants ſhould be taken into conſideration. But he being ſent to Negotiate your Majeſty's Affairs in other Countries, the Merchants attended upon him in vain, both before and after his departure, ſo that they were forc'd to ſend their Agent to proſecute their Right and Claim at *Copenhagen*, and demand Reſtitution of the Ship and Goods; but all the Be-

nefit they reap'd by it, was onely to add more expences to their former damages, and a great deal of labour and pains thrown away ; the Goods being condemn'd, to Confiſcation, and ſtill detain'd : Whereas by the Law of *Danemark*, as they ſet forth in their Petition, the Maſter is to be Puniſh'd for his Offence, and the Ship is to be Condemn'd but not the Goods. And they look upon this misfortune to lye the more heavy upon 'em, in regard the Duty which is to be paid at *Elſenore*, as they tell us, is but very ſmall. Wherefore ſeeing our Merchants ſeem to have given no cauſe of Proſcription, and for that the Maſter confeſs'd before his death, that this damage befel them onely through his neglect; and the Father of the Maſter deceas'd, by his Petition to your Majeſty, as we are given to underſtand, by laying all the blame upon his Son, has acquitted the Merchants, we could not but believe the detaining of the

ſaid

ſaid Ship and Goods to be moſt unjuſt; and therefore we are confident, that ſo ſoon as your Majeſty ſhall be rightly inform'd of the whole matter, you will not only diſapprove of theſe Oppreſſions of your Miniſters, but give command that they be call'd to an account, that the Goods be reſtor'd to the Owners or their Factors, and Reparation made 'em for the Loſſes they have ſuſtain'd. All which we moſt earneſtly requeſt of your Majeſty, as being no more then what is ſo juſt and conſentaneous to reaſon, that a more equitable demand or more legal ſatisfaction cannot well be made, conſidering the Juſtice of our Merchants Cauſe, and which your own Subjects would think but fair and honeſt upon the like occaſions.

*To the moſt Serene Prince,* John *the Fourth, King of* Portugal, *&c.*

*Moſt Serene King,*

THE Peace and Friendſhip which your Majeſty deſir'd, by your Noble and Splendid Embaſſy, ſent to us ſome time ſince, after certain Negotiations begun by the Parlament, in whom the Supreme Power was veſted at that time, as it was always moſt affectionately wiſh'd for by us, with the aſſiſtance of God, and that we might not be wanting in the Adminiſtration of the Government which we have now taken upon us, at length we brought to a happy concluſion, and as we hope, as a ſacred Act, have ratifi'd it to perpetuity. And therefore we ſend back to your Majeſty, your extraordinary Embaſſador, the Lord *John Roderigo de Sita Meneſes*, Count of *Pennaguiada*, a perſon both approv'd by your Majeſty's judgment, and by us experienc'd to excel in Civility,

vility, Ingenuity, Prudence and Fidelity, beſides the merited applauſe which he has juſtly gain'd by accompliſhing the ends of his Embaſſy, which is the Peace which he carries along with him to his Country. But as to what we perceive by your Letters dated from *Lisbon* the ſecond of *April*, that is to ſay, how highly your Majeſty eſteems our Amity, how cordially you favour our Advancement, and rejoyce at our having taken the Government of the Republick upon us, which you are pleas'd to manifeſt by ſingular Teſtimonies of Kindneſs and Affection, we ſhall make it our buſineſs, that all the world may underſtand, by our readineſs at all times to ſerve your Majeſty, that there could be nothing more acceptable or grateful to us. Nor are we leſs earneſt in our Prayers to God for your Majeſty's ſafety, the welfare of your Kingdom, and the proſperous ſucceſs of your Affairs.

Your Majeſty's moſt Affectionate, *Oliver*, &c.

Oliver

Oliver *Protector of the Commonwealth of* England, *&c. To the High and Mighty States of the* United Provinces.

*Moſt High and Mighty Lords, our deareſt Friends,*

CERTAIN Merchants, our Countrey-men, *Thomas Baſſel*, *Richard Beare*, and others their Co-Partners, have made their complaints before us, That a certain Ship of theirs, the *Edmund* and *John*, in her Voyage from the Coaſt of *Braſile* to *Lisbon*, was ſet upon by a Privateer of *Fluſhing*, call'd the *Red-Lyon*, Commanded by *Lambert Bartelſon*, but upon this condition, which the Writing Sign'd by *Lambert* himſelf teſtifies, That the Ship and whatſoever Goods belong'd to the *Engliſh* ſhould be reſtor'd at *Fluſhing*: where when the Veſſel arriv'd, the Ship indeed with what peculiarly belong'd to the Seamen was reſtor'd, but the *Engliſh* Merchants Goods were detain'd and put forthwith to Sale: For the Merchants who had receiv'd

receiv'd the Damage, when they had ſu'd for their Goods in the Court of *Fluſhing*, after great Expences for Five years together, loſt their Suit, by the pronouncing of a moſt unjuſt Sentence againſt 'em by thoſe Judges, of which ſome being intereſted in the Privateer, were both Judges and Adverſaries, and no leſs Criminal altogether. So that now they have no other hopes but onely in your Equity and uncorrupted Faith, to which at laſt they fly for Succour; and which they believ'd they ſhould find the more inclinable to do 'em Juſtice, if aſſiſted by our Recommendation. And men are ſurely to be pardon'd, if afraid of all things in ſo great a ſtruggle for their Eſtates, they rather call to mind what they have reaſon to fear from your Authority and high Power, then what they have to hope well of their Cauſe, eſpecially before ſincere and upright Judges:

Though

Though for our parts we make no queſtion, but that induc'd by your Religion, your Juſtice, your Integrity, rather then by our Intreaties, you will give that Judgment which is Juſt and Equal and truly becoming your ſelves. God preſerve both you and your Republick to his own Glory and the defence and Succour of his Church.

*Weſtminſter*, *April* 1. 1656.

*Oliver* Protector of the Commonwealth of *England*, &c.

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Oliver

Oliver *Protector of the Commonwealth of* England, Scotland, *and* Ireland, *&c. To the moſt Serene Prince*, Charles Guſtavus, *King of the* Swedes, Goths *and* Vandals, *Great Prince of* Finland, *Duke of* Eſthonia, Carelia, Breme, Verden, Stettin, Pomerania, Caſſubia *and* Vandalia, *Prince of* Rugia, *Lord of* Ingria *and* Wiſmaria, *Count* Palatine *of the* Rhine, *Duke of* Bavaria, Juliers, Cleves *and* Monts.

*Moſt Serene Prince,*

PEter *Julius Coiet* having accompliſh'd the Affairs of his Embaſſy with us, and ſo acquitted himſelf, that he is not by us to be diſmiſs'd without the Ornament of his deſerved Praiſes, is now returning to your Majeſty. For he was moſt acceptable to us, as well and chiefly for your own ſake, which ought with us to be of high conſideration, as for his own deſerts in the diligent acquittal of his Truſt. The Recommendation therefore which we receiv'd from you in his behalf, we freely

freely teſtifie to have bin made good by him, and deſervedly given by your ſelf; as he on the other ſide is able with the ſame Fidelity and Integrity to relate and moſt truly to declare our ſingular Affection and Obſervance toward your Majeſty. It remains for us to beſeech the moſt Merciful and All-powerful God to Bleſs your Majeſty with all Felicity, and a perpetual courſe of Victory over all the Enemies of his Church.

*Weſtminſter*, *April* 17. 1656.

Your Majeſty's moſt Affectionate, *Oliver* Protector of the Commonwealth of *England*, &c.

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Oliver *Protector of the Commonwealth of* England, *&c. To the moſt Serene and Potent Prince*, Lewis *King of* France.

*Moſt Serene Prince*,

*John Dethic* Mayor of the City of *London* for this Year, and *Willliam Wakefield* Merchant, have made their Addreſſes to us by way of Petition,

tion complaining, That about the middle of *October* 1649. they freighted a certain Ship, call'd the *Jonas* of *London*, *Jonas Lightfoot* Maſter, with Goods that were to be ſent to *Oſtend*; which Veſſel was taken in the mouth of the River *Thames*, by one *White* of *Barking*, a Pyrate Robbing upon the Seas by Vertue of a Commiſſion from the Son of King *Charles* deceas'd, and carri'd to *Dnnkirk*, then under the Juriſdiction of the *French*. Now in regard that by your Majeſty's Edict in the year 1647. renew'd in 1649. and by ſome other Decrees in favour of the Parlament of *England*, as they find it recorded, it was Enacted, That no Veſſel or Goods taken from the *Engliſh*, in the time of that War, ſhould be carri'd into any of your Majeſty's Ports to be there put to Sale, they preſently ſent their Factor *Hugh Morel* to *Dunkirk*, to demand Reſtitution of the ſaid Ship and Goods from *M. Leſtrade* then Governor of the

the Town; more eſpecially finding them in the Place for the moſt part untouch'd, and neither Exchang'd or Sold. To which the Governor made Anſwer, That the King had beſtow'd that Government upon him of his free Gift for Service done the King in his Wars, and therefore he would take care to make the beſt of the Reward of his Labour. So that having little to hope from an Anſwer ſo unkind and unjuſt, after a great Expence of Time and Money, the Factor return'd home. So that all the remaining hopes which the Petitioners have, ſeem wholly to depend upon your Majeſty's Juſtice and Clemency, to which they thought they might have the more eaſie acceſs by means of our Letters. and therefore that neither your Clemency nor your Juſtice may be wanting to People deſpoil'd againſt all Law and Reaſon, and contrary to your repeated Prohibitions, we make it our requeſt. Wherein, if your

your Majeſty vouchſafe to gratifie us, ſince there is nothing requir'd but what is moſt juſt and equitable, we ſhall deem it as obtain'd rather from your innate Integrity, then any intreaty of ours.

*Weſtminſter*, *May* --- 1656.

Your Majeſty's moſt Affectionate, *Oliver* Protector of the Commonwealth of *England*, &c.

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Oliver *Protector of the Commonwealth of* England, &c. *To the High and Mighty Lords, the States of the* United Provinces.

*Moſt High and Mighty Lords, our deareſt Friends,*

*John Brown*, *Nicholas Williams*, and others, Citizens of *London*, have ſet forth in their Petition to us, that when they had every one brought in their Proportions and Freighted a certain Ship call'd the *Good-Hope* of *London*, bound for the *Eaſt-Indies*, they gave Orders to their Factor to take up at *Amſterdam* Two thouſand four hunder'd *Dutch* Pounds, to inſure

ſure the ſaid Ship; that afterwards this Ship in her Voyage to the Coaſt of *India* was taken by a Ship belonging to the *Eaſt-India Company*; upon which they who had engag'd to Inſure the ſaid Veſſel refus'd to Pay the Money, and have for this Six years by various delays eluded our Merchants, who with extraordinary Diligence and at vaſt Expences endeavour'd the recovery of their juſt Right. Which in regard it is an unjuſt Grievance that lies ſo heavy upon the Petitioners, for that ſome of thoſe who oblig'd themſelves are Dead or become Inſolvent, therefore that no farther Loſſes may accrue to their former Damages, we make it our earneſt requeſt to your Lordſhips, that you will vouchſafe your Integrity to be the harbour and refuge for People toſs'd ſo many years, and almoſt ſhipwrack'd in your Courts of Juſtice, and that ſpeedy judgment may be given according

cording to the rules of Equity and Honesty in their Cause which they believe to be most just. In the mean time we wish you all Prosperity to the Glory of God and the Welfare of his Church.

*Westminste,*
*May* ---- 1656.

Your High and Mighty Lordships most Affectionate, *Oliver* Protector of the Commonwealth of *England*, &c.

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Oliver *Protector of the Commonwealth of* England, &c. *To the High and Mighty Lords, the States of the* United Provinces,

*Most High and Mighty Lords, our dearest Friends,*

THE same Persons in whose behalf we wrote to your Lordships in *September* the last year, *Thomas* and *William Lower*, the lawful Heirs of *Nicholas Lower*, deceas'd, make grievous complaints before us, that they are oppress'd either by the Favour or Wealth of their Adversaries, notwithstanding the Justice of their Cause; and when that would not

not ſuffice, although our Letters often pleaded in their behalf, they have not bin able hitherto to obtain Poſſeſſion of the Inheritance left 'em by their Father's Will. From the Court of *Holland*, where the Suit was firſt Commenc'd, they were ſent to your Court, and from thence hurri'd away into *Zealand* (to which three Places they carry'd our Letters) and now they are remanded, not unwillingly, back again to your Supream Judicature; for where the Supream Power is, there they expect Supream Juſtice. If that hope fail 'em, eluded and fruſtrated, after being ſo long toſs'd from poſt to pillar for the recovery of their Right, where at length to find a reſting place they know not. For as for our Letters, if they find no benefit of theſe the Fourth time Written, they can never promiſe themſelves any advantage for the future from ſlighted Papers. However, it would be moſt acceptable to us, if

yet

yet at length, after ſo many contempts, the injur'd Heirs might meet with ſome Relief by a ſpeedy and juſt Judgment, if not out of reſpect to any Reputation we have among ye, yet out of a regard to your own Equity and Juſtice. Of the laſt of which we make no queſtion, and confidently preſume you will allow the other to our Friendſhip.

*Weſtminſter, May -- 6656.*

Your High and Mighty Lordſhips moſt Affectionate, *Oliver* Protector of the Commonwealth of *England*, &c.

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Oliver *Protector of the Commonwealth of* England, &c. *To the moſt Serene Prince,* John *King of* Portugal.

*Moſt Serene King,*

WHereas there is a conſiderable Sum of Money owing from certain *Portugal* Merchants of the *Braſile* Company to ſeveral *Engliſh* Merchants, upon the account of

Freightage and Demorage, in the years 1649 and 1650. which Money is detain'd by the ſaid Company by your Majeſties Command, the Merchants before-mention'd expected that the ſaid Money ſhould have bin paid long ſince according to the Articles of the laſt League, but now they are afraid of being debarr'd all hopes and means of recovering their Debts; underſtanding your Majeſty has order'd, That what Money is owing to 'em by the *Braſile* Company, ſhall be carri'd into your Treaſury, and that no more then one half of the Duty of Freightage ſhall be expended toward the Payment of their Debts; by which means the Merchants will receive no more then the bare Intereſt of their Money, while at the ſame time they utterly loſe their Principal. Which we conſidering to be very ſevere and heavy upon 'em, and being overcome by their moſt reaſonable Supplications, have granted 'em theſe

our

our Letters to your Majeſty; chiefly requeſting this at your hands, to take care that the aforeſaid *Braſile* Company may give ſpeedy Satisfaction to the Merchants of this Republick, and pay 'em not onely the Principal Money which is owing to 'em, but the Five years Intereſt; as being both juſt in it ſelf, and conformable to the League ſo lately concluded between us; which on their behalf in moſt friendly manner we requeſt from your Majeſty.

Your Majeſties moſt Affectionate, *Oliver* Protector of the Commonwealth, *&c.*

*From our Palace at Weſtminſter, July* ---- 1656.

Oliver *Protector of the Commonwealth of* England, &c. *To the Moſt Serene Prince* Charles Guſtavus, *King of the* Swedes, Goths, *and* Vandals, &c

*Moſt Serene King,*

AS it is but juſt that we ſhould highly value the Friendſhip of your Majeſty, a Prince ſo Potent, and ſo Renown'd for great Atchievements; ſo is it but equally reaſonable that your Extraordinary Embaſſador, the moſt Illuſtrious Lord *Chriſtiern Bond*, by whoſe ſedulity and care a ſtrict Alliance is moſt ſacredly and ſolemnly ratifi'd between us, ſhould be moſt acceptable to us, and no leſs deeply fix'd in our eſteem. Him therefore, having now moſt worthily accompliſh'd his Embaſſy, we thought it became us to ſend back to your Majeſty, though not without the high Applauſe which the reſt of his ſingular Vertues merit; to the end, that he who was before conſpicuous in your eſteem and reſpect, may

may now be ſenſible of his having reap'd ſtill more abundant fruits of his Sedulity and Prudence from our Recommendation. As for thoſe things which yet remain to be tranſacted, we have determin'd in a ſhort time to ſend an Embaſſy to your Majeſty for the ſetling of thoſe Affairs. In the mean time Almighty God preſerve in ſafety ſo great a Pillar of his Church, and of *Swedeland*'s welfare. *From our Palace at Weſtminſter, July* — 1656.

Your Majeſties moſt Affectionate, *Oliver* Protector of the Commonwealth of *England*, &c.

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Oliver *Protector of the Commonwealth of* England, *&c. to the moſt Serene Prince,* Lewis *King of* France.

*Moſt Serene King, our moſt dear Friend and Confederate.*

CErtain Merchants of *London*, *Richard Baker* and others, have made their complaint in a Petition to us, That a certain hir'd Ship of theirs, call'd the *Endeavour*, *William*

*Jop* Maſter, Laden at *Tenariff* with Three hunder'd Pipes of rich Canary, and bound from thence for *London*, in her Voyage between *Palma* and that Iſland, upon the 21*ſt*. of *November* in the year 1655. was taken by Four-*French* Veſſels, ſeeming Ships of Burthen, but fitted and mann'd like Privateers, under the Command of *Giles de la Roche* their Admiral, and carri'd with all her Freight, and the greateſt part of the Seamen to the *Eaſt-Indies*, whither he pretended to be bound (Fourteen excepted, who were put aſhore upon the Coaſt of *Guiney*) which the ſaid *Giles* affirm'd he did with that Intent, that none of 'em might eſcape from ſo Remote and Barbarous a Countrey to do him any harm by their Teſtimony. For he confeſs'd he had neither any Commiſſion to take the *Engliſh* Veſſels, neither had he taken any, as he might have done before, well knowing there was a firm Peace at that time between the

*French*

*French* and our Republick: But in regard he had deſign'd to revittle in *Portugal*, from whence he was driven by contrary Winds, he was conſtrain'd to ſupply his neceſſities with what he found in that Veſſel; and believ'd the Owners of his Ships would ſatisfie the Merchants for their Loſs. Now the Loſs of our Merchants amounts to Sixteen Thouſand *Engliſh* Pounds, as will eaſily be made appear by Witneſſes upon Oath. But if it ſhall be Lawful upon ſuch trivial Excuſes as theſe, for Pyrates to violate the moſt Religious Acts of Princes, and make a ſport of Merchants for their particular benefits, certainly the ſanctity of Leagnes muſt fall to the ground, all Faith and Authority of Princes will grow out of date and be trampl'd under foot. Wherefore we not onely requeſt your Majeſty, but believe it mainly to concern your Honour, that they who have adventur'd upon ſo ſlight a pretence to violate the

League and moſt Sacred Oath of their Sovereign, ſhould ſuffer the Puniſhment due to ſo much Perfidiouſneſs and daring Inſolence; and that in the mean time the Owners of thoſe Ships, though to their Loſs, ſhould be bound to ſatisfie our Merchants for the vaſt Detriment which they have ſo wrongfully ſuſtain'd. So may the Almighty long preſerve your Majeſty, and ſupport the Intereſt of *France* againſt the Common Enemy of us Both. *From our Palace at* Weſtminſter, Auguſt — 1656.

Your Majeſty's moſt Affectionate, *Oliver* Protector, *&c.*

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Oliver *Protector of the Commonwealth of* England, *To his Eminency Cardinal* Mazarine.

*Moſt Eminent Lord,*

HAving an occaſion to ſend Letters to the King, we thought it likewiſe an offer'd opportunity to Write

Write to your Eminency. For we could not think it proper to conceal the ſubject of our Writing from the ſole and onely perſon, whoſe ſingular Prudence Governs the moſt important Intereſts of the *French* Nation, and the moſt weighty Affairs of the Kingdom with equal Fidelity, Council and Vigilance. Not without reaſon we complain, in ſhort, to find that League by your ſelf, as it were a crime to doubt, moſt ſacredly concluded, almoſt the very ſame day contemn'd and violated by one *Giles* a *French-man*, a petty Admiral of Four Ships, and his Aſſociates equally concern'd, as your Eminency will readily find by our Letters to the King, and the Demands themſelves of our Merchants: Nor is it unknown to your Excellency howmuch it concerns not only Inferiour Magiſtrates, but even Royal Majeſty it ſelf, that thoſe firſt Violators of ſolemn Alliances ſhould be ſeverely puniſh'd. But they, perhaps, by this

time being arriv'd in the *East-Indies*, whither they pretended to be bound, enjoy in undisturb'd possession the Goods of our People as Lawful Prize won from an Enemy, which they Robb'd and Pilledg'd from the Owners contrary to all Law and the pledg'd Faith of our late sacrd League. However, this is that which we requeſt from your Eminency, That whatever Goods were taken from our Merchants by the Admiral of thoſe Ships, as neceſſary for his Voyage, may be reſtor'd by the Owners of the ſame Veſſels, which was no more then what the Rovers themſelves thought Juſt and Equal; which, as we underſtand, it lies within your Power to do, conſidering the Authority and Sway you bear in the Kingdom. *From our Palace at Weſtminſter*, Auguſt — 1656.

Your Eminencies moſt Affectionate, *Oliver* Protector of the Commonwealth, *&c.*

Oliver

Oliver *Protector of the Commonwealth of* England, &c. *To the moſt High and Mighty Lords, the States of the* United Provinces.

*Moſt High and Mighty Lords, our dear Friends and Confederates.*

WE make no doubt, but that all men will bear us this Teſtimony, That no conſiderations, in contracting Foreign Alliances, ever ſway'd us beyond thoſe of defending the Truth of Religion, or that we accounted any thing more ſacred, then to Unite the Minds of all the Friends and Protectors of the *Proteſtants*, and of all others, who at leaſt were not their Enemies. Whence it comes to paſs, that we are touch'd with ſo much the more grief of Mind, to hear that the Proteſtant Princes and Cities, whom it ſo much behoves to live in Friendſhip and Concord together, ſhould begin to be ſo jealous of each other, and ſo ill diſpos'd to mutual Affecti-

on;

on; more especially, that your Lordships and the King of *Sweden*, then whom the Orthodox Faith has not more Magnanimous and Couragious Defenders, nor our Republick Confederates more strictly conjoyn'd in Interests, should seem to remit of your confidence in each other; or rather, that there should appear some too apparent signs of tottering Friendship and growing discord between ye. What the causes are, and what progress this alienation of your Affection has made, we protest our selves to be altogether ignorant. However, we cannot but conceive an extraordinary trouble of mind for these beginnings of the least dissention arisen among Brethren, which infallibly must greatly endanger the Protestant Interests. Which if they should gather strength, how prejudicial it would prove to the Protestant Churches, what an occasion of triumph it would afford our Enemies, and more especially the *Spaniards*,

*niards*, cannot be unknown to your Prudence, and moſt induſtrious experience of Affairs. As for the *Spaniards*, it has already ſo enliven'd their confidence, and rais'd their Courage, that they made no ſcruple by their Embaſſador reſiding in your Territories, boldly to obtrude their Counſels upon your Lordſhips, and that in reference to the higheſt concerns of your Republick; preſuming partly with Threats of renewing the War, to terrifie, and partly with a falſe proſpect of Advantage to ſollicit your Lordſhips to forſake your Ancient and moſt Faithful Friends the *Engliſh*, *French* and *Danes*, and enter into a ſtrict Confederacy with your old Enemy, and once your domineering Tyrant, now ſeemingly atton'd, but what is moſt to be fear'd, only at preſent treacherouſly fawning to advance his own Deſigns. Certainly he, who of an inveterate Enemy, lays hold of ſo ſlight an occaſion of a ſudden to become your Counſellor,

what

what is it that he would not take upon him? where would his Insolency stop, if once he could but see with his eyes, what now he onely ruminates and labours in his thoughts; that is to say, Division and a Civil War among the Protestants? We are not ignorant, that your Lordships, out of your deep Wisdom, frequently revolve in your Minds what the posture of all *Europe* is, and what more especially the condition of the Protestants: That the Cantons of *Switzerland* adhering to the Orthodox Faith, are in daily expectation of new Troubles to be rais'd by their Countrey-men embracing the Popish Ceremonies; scarcely recover'd from that War which for the sake of Religion was kindled and blown up by the *Spaniards*, who supply'd their Enemies both with Commanders and Money: That the Councils of the *Spaniards* are still contriving to continue the slaughter and destruction of the *Piemontois*, which

which was cruelly put in execution the laſt year: That the Proteſtants under the Juriſdiction of the Emperor are moſt grievouſly haraſs'd, having much ado to keep Poſſeſſion of their Native Homes: That the King of *Sweden*, whom God, as we hope, has rais'd up to be a moſt ſtout Defender of the Orthodox Faith, is at preſent waging with all the Force of his Kingdom a doubtful and bloody War with the moſt Potent Enemies of the Reformed Religion: That your own Provinces are threatened with Hoſtile Confederacies of the Princes your Neighbours, Headed by the *Spaniards*; and laſtly, that we our ſelves are buſied in a War proclaim'd againſt the King of *Spain*. In this poſture of Affairs, if any Conteſt ſhould happen between your Lordſhips and the King of *Sweden*, How miſerable would be the condition of all the Reformed Churches over all *Europe*, expos'd to the Cruelty and Fury of unſanctifi'd

unſanctifi'd Enemies? Theſe cares not ſlightly ſeize us; and we hope your Sentiments to be the ſame; and that out of your continu'd Zeal for the common Cauſe of the Proteſtants, and to the end the preſent Peace between Brethren profeſſing the ſame Faith, the ſame Hope of Eternity, may be preſerv'd inviolable, your Lordſhips will accommodate your Counſels to theſe Conſiderations, which are to be preferr'd before all others; and that you will leave nothing neglected that may conduce to the eſtabliſhing Tranquility and Union between your Lordſhips and the King of *Sweden*. Wherein if we can any way be uſeful, as far as our Authority, and the Favour you bear us will ſway with your Lordſhips, we freely offer our utmoſt Aſſiſtance, prepared in like manner to be no leſs ſerviceable to the King of *Sweden*, to whom we deſign a ſpeedy Embaſſie, to the end we may declare our Sentiments at large concerning theſe matters.

ters. We hope, moreover, that God will bend your Minds on both ſides to moderate Counſels and ſo reſtrain your Animoſities, that no provocation may be given either by the one or the other, to feſter your differences to extremity: But that on the other ſide both parties will remove whatever may give offence, or occaſion of jealouſie to the other. Which if you ſhall vouchſafe to do, you will diſappoint your Enemies, prove the conſolation of your Friends, and in the beſt manner provide for the welfare of your Republick. And this we beſeech you to be fully convinc'd of, that we ſhall uſe our utmoſt care to make appear, upon all occaſions, our extraordinary Affection and Good-will to the States of the *United Provinces*. And ſo we moſt earneſtly implore the Almighty God to perpetuate his Bleſſings of Peace, Wealth and Liberty upon your Republick, but above all things to preſerve it always flouriſhing in the

Love

Love of the Christian Faith, and the true Worship of his Name. *From our Palace at* Westminster, Aug. --- 1656.

Your High and Mightinesses most Affectionate, *Oliver* Protector of the Commonwealth of *England*, &c.

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Oliver *Protector of the Commonwealth of* England, *To the most Serene Prince*, John *King of* Portugal.

*Most Serene Prince,*

UPON the 11th. of *July* last, *Old-stile*, we receiv'd by *Thomas Maynard* the Ratification of the Peace Negotiated at *London*, by your Extraordinary Embassador, as also of the private and preliminary Articles, all now confirm'd by your Majesty: And by our Letters from *Philip Medows*, our Agent at *Lisbon*, dated the same time, we understand that our Ratification also of the same Peace and Articles, was by him, according to our Orders sent him, deliver'd to your Majesty: And thus, the

the Inſtruments of the foremention'd Ratification being mutually interchang'd on both ſides in the beginning of *June* laſt, there is now a firm and ſettl'd Peace between both Nations. And this pacification has given us no ſmall occaſion of joy and ſatisfaction, as believing it will prove to the common benefit of both Nations, and to the no ſlight detriment of our common Enemies, who as they found out a means to diſturb the former League, ſo they left nothing neglected to have hinder'd the renewing of this. Nor do we queſtion in the leaſt, that they will omit any occaſion of creating new matter for ſcandals and jealouſies between us. Which we however have conſtantly determin'd, as much as in us lies, to remove at a remote diſtance from our thoughts; rather we ſo earneſtly deſire, that this our Alliance may beget a mutual confidence greater every day then other, that we ſhall take them for our Enemies,

who

who ſhall by any artifices endeavour to moleſt the Friendſhip by this Peace eſtabliſh'd between our ſelves and both our People. And we readily perſwade our ſelves, that your Majeſty's thoughts and intentions are the ſame. And whereas it has pleas'd your Majeſty, by your Letters dated the 24th. of *June*, and ſome days after the delivery by our Agent of the interchang'd Inſtrument of confirm'd Peace, to mention certain clauſes of the League, of which you deſir'd ſome little Alteration, being of ſmall moment to this Republick, as your Majeſty believes, but of great importance to the Kingdom of *Portugal*, we ſhall be ready to enter into a particular Treaty in order to thoſe Propoſals made by your Majeſty, or whatever elſe may conduce, in the judgment of both Parties, to the farther eſtabliſhment and more ſtrongly faſtning of the League: wherein we ſhall have thoſe due conſiderations of your Majeſty and your Subjects,

Subjects, as also of our own People, that all may be satisfi'd; and it shall be in your choice, whether these things shall be Negotiated at *Lisbon* or at *London*. However, the League being now Confirm'd, and duly Seal'd with the Seals of both Nations, to alter any part of it, would be the same thing as to annul the whole; which we are certainly assur'd your Majesty by no means desires to do. We heartily wish all things Lucky, all things Prosperous to your Majesty. *From our Palace at* Westminster, August —— 1656.

Your Majesties most Affectionate, *Oliver* Protector of the Commonwealth of *England*, &c.

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Oliver *Protector of the Commonwealth of* England, &c. *To the most Serene Prince,* John *King of* Portugal.

*Most Serene King,*

WE have receiv'd the unwelcome News of a wicked and inhuman Attempt to have Murther'd

Murther'd our Agent *Philip Medows*, reſiding with your Majeſty, and by us ſent upon the bleſſed Errand of Peace; the hainouſneſs of which was ſuch, that his Preſervation is onely to be attributed to the Protection of Heaven. And we are given to underſtand by your Letters dated the 26th. of *May* laſt, and deliver'd to us by *Thomas Maynard*, that your Majeſty juſtly incens'd at the horridneſs of the Fact, has Commanded inquiry to be made after the Criminals, to the end they may be brought to condign Puniſhment: But we do not hear that any of the Ruffians are yet apprehended, or that your Commands have wrought any effect in this particular. Wherefore we thought it our duty openly to declare how deeply we reſent this barbarous outrage in part Attempted, and in part committed: And therefore we make it our Requeſt to your Majeſty, That due Puniſhment may be inflicted upon the Authors, Aſſociates,

ciates, and Encouragers of this Abominable Fact. And to the end that this may be the more ſpeedily accompliſh'd, we farther demand, That perſons of Honeſty and Sincerity, Well-wiſhers to the Peace of both Nations, may be entruſted with the Examination of this Buſineſs, That ſo a due ſcrutiny may be made into the bottom of this malicious contrivance, to the end both Authors and Aſſiſtants may be the more ſeverely Puniſh'd. Unleſs this be done, neither your Majeſty's Juſtice, nor the Honour of this Republick can be vindicated; neither can there be any ſtable aſſurance of the Peace between both Nations. We wiſh your Majeſty all things Fortunate and Proſperous. *From our Palace at* White-Hall, Auguſt — 1656.

Your Majeſty's moſt Affectionate, *Oliver*, Protector of the Commonwealth of *England*, &c.

Oliver

Oliver *Protector of the Commonwealth of* England, &c. *To the most Illustrious Lord, the* Conde d'Odemira.

*Most Illustrious Lord,*

YOUR singular Good-will toward us and this Republick, has laid no mean obligation upon us, nor slightly ti'd us to acknowledgment. We readily perceiv'd it by your Letters of the 25th. of *June* last, as also by those which we receiv'd from our Agent *Philip Meadows*, sent into *Portugal* to conclude the Peace in Agitation; wherein he inform'd us of your extraordinary zeal and diligence to promote the Pacification, of which we most joyfully receiv'd the last Ratification; and we perswade our selves, that your Lordship will have no cause to repent either of your pains and diligence in procuring this Peace, or of your Good-will to the *English*, or your Fidelity toward the King, your Sovereign; more especially considering the great hopes we have,

have, that this Peace will be of high Advantage to both Nations, and not a little Inconvenient to our Enemies. The onely Accident that fell out unfortunate and mournful in this Negotiation, was that unhallow'd Villanany nefariously attempted upon the Person of our Agent, *Philip Medows*. The conceal'd Authors of which intended piece of Inhumanity, ought no less diligently to be sought after, and made Examples to Posterity, then the vilest of most openly detected Assassinates. Nor can we doubt in the least of your King's Severity and Justice in the Punishment of a Crime so horrid, nor of your Care and Sedulity to see that there be no remissness of Prosecution; as being a person bearing due veneration to the Laws of God, and Sanctity among men, and no less zealous to maintain the Peace between both Nations; which never can subsist if such inhuman Barbarities as these escape unpunish'd and unreveng'd.

But your abhorrency and deteſtation of the Fact is ſo well known, that there is no need of inſiſting any more at preſent upon this unpleaſing ſubject. Therefore, having thus declar'd our Good-will and Affection to your Lordſhip, of which we ſhall be always ready to give apparent demonſtrations, there nothing remains, but to implore the Bleſſings of Divine Favour and Protection upon you, and all yours. *From our Palace at* Weſtm. Aug. — 1656.

Your Lordſhip's moſt Affectionate, *Oliver* Protector of the Commonwealth of *England*, &c.

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Oliver *Protector of the Commonwealth of* England *&c. to the moſt Serene Prince* Charles Guſtavus, *King of the* Swedes, Goths *and* Vandals, *&c.*

*Moſt Serene King, our deareſt Friend and Confederate,*

BEing aſſur'd of your Majeſty's concurrence both in Thoughts and Councels, for the defence of the Proteſtant Faith againſt the Enemies of

of it, if ever, now at this time, moſt dangerouſly vexatious, though we cannot but rejoyce at your proſperous Succeſſes, and the daily Tidings of your Victories, yet on the other ſide we cannot but be as deeply afflicted to meet with one thing that diſturbs and interrupts our joy; we mean, the bad News, intermix'd with ſo many welcome Tydings, that the Ancient Friendſhip between your Majeſty and the *States of the United Provinces*, looks with a dubious Aſpect, and that the miſchief is exaſperated to that heighth, eſpecially in the *Baltick* Sea, as ſeems to bode an unhappy rupture. We confeſs our ſelves ignorant of the Cauſes; but we too eaſily foreſee that the Events, which God avert, will be fatal to the Intereſts of the Proteſtants. And therefore, as well in reſpect to that moſt ſtrict Alliance between us and your Majeſty, as out of that Affection and Love to the Reformed Religion, by which we all of us ought

chiefly to be ſwai'd, we thought it our duty, as we have moſt earneſtly exhorted the States of the *United Provinces* to Peace and Moderation, ſo now to perſwade your Majeſty to the ſame. The Proteſtants have Enemies every where enow and to ſpare, inflam'd with inexorable revenge; they never were known to have conſpir'd more perniciouſly to our deſtruction, witneſs the Valleys of *Piemont*, ſtill reaking with the Blood and Slaughter of the Miſerable; witneſs *Auſtria*, lately turmoil'd with the Emperor's Edicts and Proſcriptions; witneſs *Switzerland*; But to what purpoſe is it in many words to call back the bitter lamentations and remembrance of ſo many Calamities? Who ſo ignorant, as not to know that the Counſels of the *Spaniards*, and the *Roman Pontiff*, for theſe Two years have fill'd all theſe Places with Conflagrations, Slaughter, and Vexation of the *Orthodox*. If to theſe miſchiefs there

there ſhould happen an acceſs of Diſſention among Proteſtant Brethren, more eſpecially between Two Potent States, upon whoſe Courage, Wealth and Fortitude, ſo far as human Strength may be reli'd upon, the Support and Hopes of all the Reformed Churches depend, of neceſſity the Proteſtant Religion muſt be in great jeopardy, if not upon the brink of deſtruction. On the other ſide, if the whole Proteſtant Name would but obſerve perpetual Peace among themſelves with that ſame Brotherly Union as becomes their Profeſſion, there would be no occaſion to fear what all the Artifices or Puiſſance of our Enemies could do to hurt us, which our fraternal Concord and Harmony alone would eaſily repel and fruſtrate. And therefore we moſt earneſtly requeſt and beſeech your Majeſty to harbour in your Mind propitious thoughts of Peace, and inclinations ready bent to repair the breaches of

your Priſtin Friendſhip with the *United Provinces*, if in any part it may have accidentally ſuffer'd the decays of miſtakes or miſconſtruction. If there be any thing wherein our Labour, our Fidelity and Diligence may be uſeful toward this Compoſure, we offer and devote all to your ſervice. And may the God of Heaven favour and proſper your Noble and Pious Reſolutions, which together with all Felicity, and a perpetual courſe of Victory we cordially wiſh to your Majeſty. *From our Palace at* Weſtm. Aug. — 1656.

Your Majeſty's moſt Affectionate, *Oliver* Protector of the Commonwealth of *England*, &c.

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Oliver *Protector of the Commonwealth of* England, *&c. To the States of* Holland.

*Moſt High and Mighty Lords, our deareſt Friends,*

IT has bin repreſented to us, by *William Cooper* a Miniſter of *London*, and our Countrey-man, That *John*

*John le Maire* of *Amſterdam*, his Father-in-Law, about Three and thirty years ago devis'd a Project, by which the Revenues of your Republick might be very much advanc'd without any burthen to the People, and made an agreement with *John Vandenbrook* to ſhare between 'em the reward which they ſhould obtain for their Invention, which was the ſetling of a *little Seal* to be made uſe of in all the Provinces of your Territories, and for which your *High and Mightineſſes* promis'd to pay the ſaid *Vandenbrook* and his Heirs the yearly Sum of 3000 *Gilders*, or 300 *Engliſh* Pounds. Now although the uſe and method of this *Little Seal* has bin found very eaſy and expeditious, and that ever ſince great Incomes have thereby accru'd to your *High* and *Mightineſſes* and ſome of your *Provinces*, nevertheleſs nothing of the ſaid Reward, tho with much importunity demanded, has bin paid to this day; ſo that the ſaid *Vanden-*

*brook* and *le Maire* being tir'd out with long delays, the Right of the ſaid Grant is devolv'd to the foreſaid *William Cooper*, our Countrey-man; who deſirous to reap the fruit of his Father-in-Law's Induſtry, has petition'd us, That we would recommend his juſt demands to your *High* and *Mightineſſes*, which we thought not reaſonable to deny him. Wherefore, in moſt friendly wiſe, we requeſt your *High* and *Mightineſſes* favourably to hear the Petition of the ſaid *William Cooper*, and to take ſuch care, that the Reward and Stipend, ſo well deſerv'd, and by contract Agreed and Granted, may be paid him annually from this time forward, together with the Arrears of the years already paſs'd. Which not doubting but your *High* and *Mightineſſes* will vouchſafe to perform, as what is no more then juſt and becoming your Magnificence, we ſhall be ready to ſhew the ſame favour to the Petitions of your Countrey-men upon any occaſions

occaſions of the ſame nature, whenever preſented to us. *From our Palace at* White-Hall, *September* — 1656.

Your High and Mightineſſes moſt Affectionate, *Oliver* Protector of the Commonwealth, *&c.*

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Oliver *Protector of the Commonwealth of* England, *&c. To the moſt Serene Prince,* Lewis *King of* France.

*Moſt Serene King, our deareſt Friend and Confederate,*

AGainſt our will it is that we ſo often trouble your Majeſty with the wrongs done by your Subjects, after a Peace ſo lately renew'd. But as we are fully perſwaded that your Majeſty diſapproves their being committed, ſo neither can we be wanting to the complaints of our People. That the Ship *Anthony* of *Dieppe* was Legally taken before the League, manifeſtly appears by the Sentence of the Judges of our Admiralty Court. Part of the Lading, that is to ſay, Four thouſand Hides, *Robert Brown*, a Merchant of *London*

fairly bought of thoſe who were entruſted with the Sale, as they themſelves teſtify. The ſame Merchant, after the Peace was confirm'd, carri'd to *Dieppe* about Two hundred of the ſame Hides, and there having Sold 'em to a Currier, thought to have receiv'd his Money, but found it Stopt and Attach'd in the hands of his Factor; and a Suit being commenc'd againſt him, he could obtain no favour in that Court. Wherefore, we thought it proper to requeſt your Majeſty, that the whole matter may be referr'd to your Council, that ſo the ſaid Money may be diſcharg'd from an unjuſt and vexatious Action. For if Acts done and adjudg'd before the Peace, ſhall after Peace renew'd be call'd into queſtion and controverſy, we muſt look upon aſſurance of Treaties to be a thing of little moment. Nor will there be any end of theſe complaints, if ſome of theſe Violators of Leagues be not made ſeveree and timely Examples

to

to others. Which we hope your Majeſty will ſpeedily take into your Care. To whom God Almighty in the mean time vouchſafe his moſt Holy Protection. *From our Palace at* White-Hall, September —— 1656.

Your Majeſty's moſt Affectionate, *Oliver* Protector of the Commonwealth of *England*, &c.

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Oliver *Protector of the Commonwealth of* England, &c. *To the moſt Serene Prince,* John, *King of* Portugal.

*Moſt Serene King,*

THE Peace being happily concluded between this Republick and the Kingdom of *Portugal*, and what refers to Trade being duly provided for and ratifi'd, we deem'd it neceſſary to ſend to your Majeſty *Thomas Maynard*, from whom you will receive theſe Letters to reſide in your Dominions, under the Character and Employment of a *Conſul*, and to take care of the Eſtates and Intereſts of our Merchants. Now in regard

it

it may frequently ſo fall out, that he may be enforc'd to deſire the Privilege of free Admiſſion to your Majeſty, as well in matters of Trade, as upon other occaſions for the Intereſt of our Republick, we make it our requeſt to your Majeſty, That you will vouchſafe him favourable Acceſs and Audience, which we ſhall acknowledge as a ſingular demonſtration and teſtimony of your Majeſties Good-will toward us. In the mean time we beſeech Almighty God to bleſs your Majeſty with all Proſperity. *From our Court at* Weſtm. October —— 1656.

Your Majeſties moſt Affectionate, *Oliver* Protector of the Commonwealth of *England*, &c.

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*To the King of the* Swedes.

*Moſt Serene and Potent King,*

ALthough your Majeſty's wonted and ſpontaneous Favour and Good-will toward all deſerving men be

be ſuch, that all recommendations in their behalf may ſeem ſuperfluous, yet we were unwilling to diſmiſs without our Letters to your Majeſty, this Noble Perſon, *William Vavaſſour* Knight, ſerving under your Banners, and now returning to your Majeſty: Which we have done ſo much the more willingly, being inform'd, that formerly following your Majeſty's fortunate Conduct, he had loſt his Blood in ſeveral Combats to aſſert the Noble Cauſe for which you Fight. Inſomuch, that the ſucceeding Kings of *Swedeland* in renumeration of his Military Skill, and bold Atchievements in War, rewarded him with Lands and Annual Penſions, as the Guerdons of his Proweſs. Nor do we queſtion but that he may be of great uſe to your Majeſty in your preſent Wars, who has bin ſo long conſpicuous for his Fidelity and Experience in Military Affairs. 'Tis our deſire therefore that he may be recommended to your Majeſty according

cording to his merits, and we alſo farther requeſt, That he may be paid the Arrears that are due to him. This, as it will be moſt acceptable to us, ſo we ſhall be ready, upon the like occaſion, whenever offer'd, to gratify your Majeſty, to whom we wiſh all Happineſs and Proſperity.

Your Majeſty's moſt Affectionate, *Oliver* Protector of the Commonwealth of *England*, &c.

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Oliver *Protector of the Commonwealth of* England, &c. *To the moſt Serene Prince,* John *King of* Portugal.

*Moſt Serene King, our deareſt Friend and Confederate,*

*Thomas Evans*, a Maſter of a Ship, and our Countrey-man, has preſented a Petition to us, wherein he ſets forth, that in the years 1649. and 1650. he ſerv'd the *Braſile* Company with his Ship the *Scipio*, being a Veſſel of Four hunder'd Tuns, and of which he was Maſter: that the ſaid Ship was taken from him, with all the Lading and Furniture

ture by your Majeſties Command; by which he has receiv'd great Damage, beſides the loſs of Six years gain ariſing out of ſuch a Stock. The Commiſſioners by the League appointed on both ſides for the deciding controverſies, valu'd the whole at Seven thouſand of our Pounds, or twice as many *Milreys* of *Portugal* Money, as they made their report to us. Which Loſs falling ſo heavy upon the foreſaid *Thomas*, and being conſtrain'd to make a voyage to *Lisbon* for the Recovery of his Eſtate, he humbly beſought us that we would grant him our Letters to your Majeſty in favour of his demands. We therefore, although we Wrote the laſt year in behalf of our Merchants in general to whom the *Braſile* Company was Indebted, nevertheleſs that we may not be wanting to any that implore our aid, requeſt your Majeſty, in regard to that Friendſhip which is between us, that conſideration may be had of this

man

man in particular, and that your Majeſty would give ſuch Orders to all your Miniſters and Officers, that no obſtacle may hinder him from demanding and recovering without delay, what is owing to him from the *Braſile* Company, or any other perſons. God Almighty Bleſs your Majeſty with perpetual Felicity, and grant that our Friendſhip may long endure. *From our Palace at* Weſtm. October —— 1656.

Your Mrjeſty's moſt Affectionate, *Oliver* Protector of the Commonwealth of *England*, &c.

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Oliver *Protector of the Commonwealth of* England, &c. *To the Illuſtrious and Magnificent Senate of* Hamborough.

*Moſt Noble, Magnificent, and Right Worſhipful,*

*James* and *Patrick Hays*, Subjects of this Commonwealth, have made grievous Complaint before us, That they being Lawful Heirs of their Brother *Alexander*, who dy'd Inteſtate, were ſo declar'd by a Sentence

tence of your Court pronounc'd in their behalf againſt their Brother's Widow; and the Eſtates of their deceas'd Brother, together with the Profits, onely the Widow's Dowre excepted, being adjudg'd to them by vertue of that Sentence; nevertheleſs, to this very day they could never reap any benefit of their Pains and Expences in obtaining the ſaid Judgment, notwithſtanding their own declar'd Right, and Letters formerly Written by King *Charles* in their behalf; for that the great Power and Wealth of *Albert van Eyzen*, one of your Chief Magiſtrates, and with whom the greateſt part of the Goods was depoſited, was an Oppoſition too Potent for them to ſurmount, whilſt he ſtrove all that in him lay that the Goods might not be reſtor'd to the Heirs. Thus diſappointed and tir'd out with delays, and at length reduc'd to utmoſt Poverty, they are become ſuppliants to us that we would not forſake

ſake 'em, wrong'd and oppreſs'd as they are in a Confederated City. We therefore believing it to be a chief part of our duty, not to ſuffer any Countrey-man of ours in vain to deſire our Patronage and Succour in diſtreſs, make this requeſt to your Lordſhips, which we are apt to think we may eaſily obtain from your City, That the Sentence pronounc'd in behalf of the two Brothers may be Ratifi'd and duly Executed according to the intents and purpoſes for which it was given; and that you will not ſuffer any longer delay of Juſtice, by any Appeal to the Chamber of *Spire*, upon any pretence whatever: For we have requir'd the Opinions of our Lawyers, which we have ſent to your Lordſhips fairly Written and Sign'd. But if intreaty and fair means will nothing avail, of neceſſity (and which is no more then according to the cuſtomary Law of Nations, though we are unwilling

to

to come to that extremity) the ſeverity of Retaliation muſt take its courſe; which we hope your Prudence will take care to prevent. *From our Palace at* Weſtm. Octob. 16. 1656.

Your Lordſhips moſt Affectionate, *Oliver* Protector of the Commonwealth of *England*, &c.

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Oliver *Protector of the Commonwealth of* England, *&c. To the moſt Serene and Potent* Lewis, *King of* France.

*Moſt Serene and Potent King, our deareſt Friend and Confederate,*

WE are apt to believe that your Majeſty receiv'd our Letters dated the 14th of *May*, of the laſt year, wherein we wrote that *John Dethic*, Mayor of *London* that year, and *William Waterford*, Merchant, had by their Petition ſet forth, That a certain Veſſel, call'd the *Jonas*, freighted with Goods upon their Accompt, and bound for *Dunkirk*, then under the Juriſdiction of the *French*, was taken at the very Mouth of the *Thames*, by a Sea-

a Sea-Rover, pretending a Commiſſion from the Son of the late King *Charles*: Which being directly contrary to your Edicts, and the Decrees of your Council, That no *Engliſh* Ship taken by the Enemies of the *Parliament*, ſhould be admitted into any of your Ports, and there put to ſale, they demanded Reſtitution of the ſaid Ship and Goods from M. *Leſtrade*, then Governor of the Town, who return'd 'em an anſwer no way becoming a Perſon of his Quality, or who pretended Obedience to his Sovereign; That the Government was conferr'd upon him for his good Service in the Wars, and therefore he would make his beſt advantage of it, that is to ſay, by right or wrong; for that he ſeem'd to drive at: As if he had receiv'd that Government of your Majeſties free gift, to authorize him in the robbing your Confederates, and contemning your Edicts, ſet forth in their favour. For what the King of *France* forbids his Subjects any way to have a hand

hand in, that the King's Governor has not only ſuffer'd to be committed in your Ports, but he himſelf becomes the Pirate, ſeizes the Prey, and openly avouches the Fact. With this Anſwer therefore the Merchants departed, altogether baffl'd and diſappointed; and this we ſignifi'd by our Letters to your Majeſty the laſt year with little better ſucceſs; for as yet we have receiv'd no Reply to thoſe Letters. Of which we are apt to believe the reaſon was, becauſe the Governor was with the Army in *Flanders*; but now he reſides at *Paris*, or rather flutters unpuniſh'd about the City, and at Court, enrich'd with the Spoils of our Merchants. Once more therefore, We make it our Requeſt to your Majeſty, which it is your Majeſty's Intereſt in the firſt place to take care of, That no perſon whatever may dare to juſtify the wrongs done to your Majeſty's Confederates by the contempt of your Royal Edicts. Nor can this Cauſe be properly referr'd to the

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Commiſſioners appointed for deciding Common Controverſies on both ſides; ſince in this Caſe, not only the Rights of Confederates, but your Authority it ſelf, and the Veneration due to the Royal Name, are chiefly in diſpute. And it would be a wonder, that Merchants ſhould be more troubled for their Loſſes, then your Majeſty provok'd at Incroachments upon your Honour. Which while you diſdain to brook, with the ſame labour you will demonſtrate that you neither repent of your Friendly Edicts in favour of our Republick, nor conniv'd at the Injuries done by your Subjects, nor neglected to give due reſpect to our demands. *From our Court at* Weſtminſter, Novemb. —— 1656.

Your Majeſty's moſt bounden by Good-will, by Friendſhip and Solemn League, *Oliver* Protector of the Commonwealth, *&c.*

Oliver

Oliver *Protector of the Commonwealth of* England, &c. *To the moſt Serene and Potent Prince,* Frederic *III. King of* Danemark, Norway, *the* Vandals *and* Goths; *Duke of* Sleſwich, Holſatia, Stormatia *and* Dithmarſh; *Count in* Oldenburgh *and* Delmenhorſt, *&c.*

*Moſt Serene and Potent King, our deareſt Friend and Confederate,*

WE receiv'd your Majeſty's Letters, dated the 16th of *February,* from *Copenhagen,* by the moſt worthy *Simon de Pitkum,* your Majeſty's Agent here reſiding. Which when we had perus'd, the Demonſtrations of your Majeſty's Good-will towards us, and the Importance of the Matter concerning which you write, affected us to that degree, that we deſign'd forthwith to ſend to your Majeſty ſome perſon, who being furniſh'd with ample Inſtructions from us, might more at large declare to your Majeſty our Counſels in that Affair. And tho we have ſtill the

ſame

ſame Reſolutions, yet hitherto we have not been at leiſure to think of a Perſon proper to be entruſted with thoſe Commands, which the weight of the matter requires; tho in a ſhort time we hope to be more at liberty. In the mean while, we thought it not convenient any longer to delay the letting your Majeſty underſtand, that the preſent Condition of Affairs in *Europe* has employ'd the greateſt part of our Care and Thoughts; while for ſome years, to our great grief, we have beheld the Proteſtant Princes and Supream Magiſtrates of the Reformed Republicks, (whom it rather behoves, as being engag'd by the common Tye of Religion and Safety, to combine and ſtudy all the ways imaginable conducing to mutual defence) more and more at weakning variance among themſelves, and jealous of each other's Actions and Deſigns; putting their Friends in fear, their Enemies in hope, that the Poſture of Affairs bodes rather Enmity

and

and Diſcord, then a firm agreement of mind to defend and aſſiſt each other. And this ſollicitude has fix'd it ſelf ſo much the deeper in our thoughts, in regard there ſeems to appear ſome ſparkles of jealouſy between your Majeſty and the King of *Sweden*; at leaſt, that there is not that conjunction of Affections, which our Love and Good-will in general toward the Orthodox Religion ſo importunately requires; your Majeſty, perhaps, ſuſpecting that the Trade of your Dominions will be prejudic'd by the King of *Sweden*; and on the other ſide, the King of *Sweden* being jealous, that by your means the War, which he now wages, is made more difficult, and that you oppoſe him in his contracting thoſe Alliances which he ſeeks. 'Tis not unknown to your Majeſty, ſo eminent for your profound Wiſdom, how great the Danger is that threatens the Proteſtant Religion, ſhould ſuch Suſpicions long continue between two ſuch Potent

Monarchs; more eſpecially, which God avert, if any ſymptom of Hoſtility ſhould break forth. However it be, for our parts, as we have earneſtly exhorted the King of *Sweden*, and the *States* of the *United Provinces* to Peace, and moderate Counſels (and are beyond expreſſion glad to behold Peace and Concord renew'd between them; for that the Heads of that League are tranſmitted to us by their Lordſhips, the States-General) ſo we thought it our duty, and chiefly becoming our Friendſhip, not to conceal from your Majeſty what our Sentiments are concerning theſe matters, (more eſpecially being ſo affectionately invited ſo to do by your Majeſty's moſt Friendly Letters; which we look upon, and embrace, as a moſt ſingular Teſtimony of your Good-will toward us) but to lay before your eyes, how great a neceſſity Divine Providence has impos'd upon us all, that profeſs the Proteſtant Religion, to ſtudy Peace among our ſelves,

ſelves, and that chiefly at this time, when our moſt embittered Enemies ſeem to have on every ſide conſpir'd our deſtruction. There's no neceſſity of calling to remembrance the Valleys of *Piemont* ſtill beſmear'd with the Blood and Slaughter of the miſerable Inhabitants; nor *Auſtria*, tormented at the ſame time with the Emperor's Decrees and Proſcriptions; nor the impetuous Onſets of the Popiſh upon the Proteſtant *Switzers*. Who can be ignorant, that the Artifices and Machinations of the *Spaniards*, for ſome years laſt paſt, have fill'd all theſe places with the confus'd and blended havock of Fire and Sword? To which unfortunate Pile of Miſeries, if once the Reformed Brethren ſhould come to add their own Diſſentions among themſelves, and more eſpecially two ſuch Potent Monarchs, the chiefeſt part of our ſtrength, and among whom ſo large a Proviſion of the Proteſtants Security and Puiſſance lies ſtor'd and hoard-

ed up againſt Times of Danger, moſt certainly the Intereſts of the Proteſtants muſt go to ruine, and ſuffer a total and irrecoverable Eclipſe. On the other ſide, If Peace continue firmly fix'd between two ſuch powerful Neighbours, and the reſt of the Orthodox Princes; if we would but make it our main ſtudy to abide in Brotherly Concord, there would be no cauſe, by God's aſſiſtance, to fear neither the force nor ſubtilty of our Enemies; all whoſe Endeavours, and laborious Toils, our Union alone would be able to diſſipate and fruſtrate. Nor do we queſtion, but that your Majeſty, as you are freely willing, ſo your willingneſs will be conſtant in contributing your utmoſt Aſſiſtance to procure this bleſſed Peace. To which purpoſe, we ſhall be moſt ready to communicate, and join our Counſels with your Majeſty; profeſſing a real and cordial Friendſhip, and not only determin'd inviolably to obſerve the Amity ſo auſpiciouſly contracted

tracted between us, but as God ſhall enable us, to bind our preſent Alliance with a more ſtrict and Fraternal Bond. In the mean time, the ſame Eternal God grant all things proſperous and ſucceſsful to your Majeſty. *From our Court at* White-Hall, *Decemb.* — 1656.

Your Majeſties moſt cloſely united by Friendſhip, Alliance and Good-will, *Oliver* Protector of the Commonwealth of *England*, &c.

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Oliver *Protector of the Commonwealth of* England, *&c. To the moſt Serene and Illuſtrious Prince and Lord, the Lord* William, *Lantgrave of* Heſs, *Prince of* Hereſeldt, *Count in* Cutzenellebogen, *Decia* Ligenhain, Widda *and* Schaunburg, &c.

*Moſt Serene Prince,*

WE had return'd an Anſwer to your Letters ſent us now near a Twelvemonth ſince, for which we beg your Highneſſes pardon, had not many, and thoſe the moſt Important Affairs of the Republick under our care, conſtrain'd us to this unwil-

ling ſilence. For what Letters could be more grateful to us, then thoſe which are written from a moſt Religious Prince, deſcended from Religious Anceſtors, in order to ſettle the Peace of Religion, and the Harmony of the Church? Which Letters attribute to us the ſame Inclinations, the ſame Zeal to promote the Peace of Chriſtendom, not only in your own, but in the Opinion and Judgment of almoſt all the Chriſtian World, and which we are moſt highly glad to find ſo univerſally aſcrib'd to our ſelves. And how far our Endeavours have been ſignal formerly throughout theſe Three Kingdoms, and what we have effected by our Exhortations, by our Sufferings, by our Conduct, but chiefly by Divine Aſſiſtance, the greateſt part of our People both well know, and are ſenſible of, in a deep tranquility of their Conſciences. The ſame Peace we have wiſh'd to the Churches of *Germany*, whoſe Diſſentions have been too

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ſharp, and of too too long endurance; and by our Agent *Dury*, for many years in vain endeavouring the ſame Reconciliation, we have cordially offer'd whatever might conduce on our part to the ſame purpoſe. We ſtill perſevere in the ſame Determinations, and wiſh the ſame Fraternal Charity one among another, to thoſe Churches. But how difficult a task it is to ſettle peace among thoſe Sons of Peace, as they give out themſelves to be, to our extream grief, we more then abundantly underſtand. For that the Reformed, and thoſe of the *Auguſtan* Confeſſion, ſhould cement together in a Communion of one Church, is hardly ever to be expected: 'Tis impoſſible by force to prohibit either from defending their Opinions, whether in private Diſputes, or by publick Writings. For Force can never conſiſt with Eccleſiaſtical Tranquility. This only were to be wiſh'd, that they who differ, would ſuffer themſelves to be entreated, that they

would disagree more civilly and with more moderation; and notwithstanding their Disputes, Love one another; not imbitter'd against each other as Enemies, but as Brethren, dissenting onely in Trifles, though in the Fundamentals of Faith most cordially agreeing. With inculcating and perswading these things, we shall never be wearied; beyond that, there is nothing allow'd to human Force or Counsels: God will accomplish his own work in his own time. In the mean while, you, most Serene Prince, have left behind ye a noble testimony of your Affection to the Churches, an eternal Monument becoming the Vertue of your Ancestors, and an Exemplar worthy to be follow'd by all Princes. It only then remains for us to implore the Merciful and Great God to Crown your Highness with all the Prosperity in other things which you can wish for; but not to change your Mind, then which you cannot have a better, since a better

cannot

cannot be, nor more Piouſly devoted to his Glory. *Weſtm. March* —1656.

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Oliver *Protector of the Commonwealth of* England, &c. *To the moſt Serene Prince, the Duke of* Curland.

*Moſt Serene Prince,*

WE have bin abundantly ſatiſfi'd of your Affection to us, as well at other times, as when you kindly entertain'd our Embaſſador in his Journey to the Duke of *Muſcovy*, for ſome days together making a ſtop in your Territories: Now we are no leſs confident that your Highneſs will give us no leſs obliging Teſtimonies of your Juſtice and Equity, as well out of your own Good nature, as at our requeſt. For we are given to underſtand, That one *John Johnſon*, a *Scotchman*, and Maſter of a certain Ship of yours, having faithfully diſcharg'd his Duty for 7 years together in the Service of your Highneſs, as to your Highneſs is well known,

at length deliver'd the ſaid Ship, call'd the *Whale*, in the Mouth of the River, according as the Cuſtome is, to one of your Pilots, by him to be carried ſafe into Harbour. But it ſo fell out, that the Pilot being ignorant of his Duty, though frequently Warned and Admoniſh'd by the ſaid *Johnſon*, as he has prov'd by ſeveral Witneſſes, the ſaid Ship ran aground and ſplit to pieces, not through any fault of the Maſter, but through the want of Skill, or Obſtinacy of the Pilot. Which being ſo, we make it our earneſt requeſt to your Highneſs, That neither the ſaid Shipwrack may be imputed to the foremention'd *Johnſon*, the Maſter, nor that he may upon that account be depriv'd of the Wages due to him; by the onely enjoyment of which, he having lately ſuffer'd another misfortune at Sea, he hopes however to ſupport and comfort himſelf in the extremity of his Wants. *From our Court at* Weſtm. March —— 1657.

Oliver

Oliver *Protector of the Commonwealth of* England, &c. *To the most Noble the Consuls and Senators of the Republick of* Dantzick.

*Most Noble and Magnificent, our dearest Friends,*

WE have always esteem'd your City, flourishing in Industry, Wealth, and studious Care to promote all useful Arts and Sciences, fit to be compar'd with any the most Noble Cities of *Europe*. Now in regard that in this War, that has long bin hovering about your Confines, you have rather chosen to side with the *Polanders*, then with the *Swedes*; we are most heartily desirous, that for the sake of that Religion which you embrace, and of your ancient Commerce with the *English*, you would chiefly adhere to those Counsels, which may prove most agreeable to the Glory of God, and the Dignity and Splendour of your City. Wherefore we intreat ye, for the sake of that Friendship which has bin long establish'd between your selves and the *English* Nation, and if our Reputation have ob-

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tain'd any favour or eſteem among ye, to ſet at Liberty Count *Conismark*, conſpicuous among the Principal of the *Swediſh* Captains, and a Perſon ſingularly fam'd for his Conduct in War, but by the Treachery of his own People ſurpris'd at Sea; wherein you will do no more then what the Laws of War, not yet exaſperated to the heighth, allow; or if you think this is not ſo agreeable to your Intereſts, that you will however deem him worthy a more eaſy and leſs ſevere Confinement. Which of theſe two Favours ſoever you ſhall determin to grant us, you will certainly perform an act becoming the Reputation of your City, and highly oblige beſides the moſt famous Warriers and moſt eminent Captains of all Parties; and laſtly, lay upon our ſelves an obligation not the meaneſt; and perhaps it may be worth your Intereſt to gratify us. *From our Court at* Weſtm. April — 1657.

Your Lordſhips moſt Affectionate, *Oliver*, &c.

Oliver

Oliver *Protector of the Commonwealth of* England, Scotland, *and* Ireland, &c. *To the moſt Serene and Potent Prince and Lord, Emperor and great Duke of all* Ruſſia, *ſole Lord of* Volodomaria, Moſcow *and* Novograge, *King of* Cazan, Aſtracan *and* Syberia, *Lord of* Vobſcow, *great Duke of* Smolensko, Tuerſcoy, *and other Places. Lord and great Duke of* Novogrod, *and the Lower Provinces of* Chernigoy, Rezanſco *and others. Lord of all the* Northern Climes; *alſo Lord of* Everſco, Cartalinſca, *and many other Places.*

ALL men know how Ancient the Friendſhip, and how vaſt the Trade has bin for a long train of years between the *Engliſh* Nation and the People of your Empire: But that ſingular Vertue, moſt *Auguſt Emperor*, which in your Majeſty far outſhines the Glory of your Anceſtors; and the high Opinion which all the Neighbouring Princes have of it, more eſpecially moves us to pay a more then ordinary Veneration and Affection to your Majeſty, and to deſire

ſire the imparting of ſome things to your Conſideration, which may conduce to the Good of *Chriſtendome* and your own Intereſts. Wherefore, we have ſent the moſt Accompliſh'd *Richard Bradſhaw*, a perſon of whoſe Fidelity, Integrity, Prudence, and Experience in Affairs, we are well aſſur'd, as having bin imploy'd by us in ſeveral other Negotiations of this nature, under the Character of our Agent to your Majeſty; to the end he may more at large make known to your Majeſty our ſingular Good will and high Reſpect toward ſo Puiſſant a Monarch, and Tranſact with your Majeſty concerning the matters above-mention'd. Him therefore we requeſt your Majeſty favourably to receive in our Name, and as often as ſhall be requiſite to grant him free Acceſs to your Perſon, and no leſs gracious Audience; and laſtly, to give the ſame credit to him in all things which he ſhall Propoſe or Negotiate, as to our

ſelves

ſelves if we were perſonally preſent. And ſo we beſeech Almighty God to Bleſs your Majeſty and the *Ruſſian* Empire with all Proſperity. *From our Court at* Weſtm. April — 1657.

Your Majeſty's moſt Affectionate, *Oliver*, Protector of the Commonwealth of *England*, &c.

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Oliver *Protector of the Commonwealth of* England, &c. *To the Moſt Serene and Potent Prince* Charles Guſtavus, *King of the* Swedes, Goths, *and* Vandals, &c.

*Moſt Serene and Potent King, our deareſt Friend and Confederate,*

THE moſt Honourable *William Jepſon*, Collonel of Horſe, and a Senator in our Parlament, who will have the Honour to deliver theſe Letters to your Majeſty, will make known to your Majeſty, with what diſturbance and grief of Mind we receiv'd the News of the fatal War broke out between your Majeſty and the King of *Danemark*, and how much it is our cordial and real endeavour,

vour, not to neglect any labour or duty of ours, as far as God enables us, that ſome ſpeedy remedy may be appli'd to this growing Miſchief, and thoſe Calamites averted, which of neceſſity this War will bring upon the Common Cauſe of Religion; more eſpecially at this time, now that our Adverſaries unite their Forces and pernicious Counſels againſt the Profeſſion and Profeſſors of the Orthodox Faith. Theſe and ſome other Conſiderations of great importance to the Benefit and Publick Intereſts of both Nations, have induc'd us to ſend this Gentleman to your Majeſty under the Character of our Extraordinary Envoy. Whom we therefore deſire your Majeſty kindly to receive, and to give Credit to him in all things which he ſhall have to impart to your Majeſty in our Name; as being a Perſon in whoſe Fidelity and Prudence we very much confide. We alſo farther requeſt, That your Majeſty will be pleas'd

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fully to assure your self of our Good-will and most undoubted Zeal, as well toward your Majesty, as for the Prosperity of your Affairs. Of which we shall be readily prepar'd with all imaginable willingness of mind to give unquestionable Testimonies upon all occasions. *From our Court at* Westminster, August —— 1657.

Your Majesty's Friend, and most strictly Co-united Confederate, *Oliver* Protector of the Commonwealth of *England*, &c.

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Oliver

Oliver *Protector of the Commonwealth of* England, &c. *To the moſt Serene Prince, The Lord* Frederick William, *Marqueſs of* Brandenburgh, *High Chamberlain of the Imperial Empire, and Prince Elector, Duke of* Magdeburgh, Pruſſia, Juliers, Cleves, Monts, Stettin, Pomerania, *of the* Caſſiubiands *and* Vandals, *as alſo of* Sileſia, Croſna, and Carnovia, Burgravae *of* Norrinburgh. *Prince of* Halberſtadt *and* Minda, *Count of* Mark *and* Ravensbergh, *Lord in* Ravenſtein.

*Moſt Serene Prince, our deareſt Friend and Confederate*

SUCH is the fame of yonr Highneſs's Vertue and Prudence both in Peace and War, and ſo loudly ſpread through all the World, That all the Princes round about are ambitious of your Friendſhip; nor does any one deſire a more faithful or conſtant Friend and Aſſociate: Therefore to the end your Highneſs may know that we are alſo in the number of thoſe that have the higheſt and moſt honourable Thoughts of your Perſon and Merits, ſo well deſerving

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of the Commonwealth of *Chriſtendome*; we have ſent the moſt Worthy Col. *Will. Jepſon*, a Senator in our Parlament, in our Name to kiſs your Majeſties hands, and with all to wiſh the continuance of all Proſperity to your Affairs, and in Words at large to expreſs our Good-will and Affection to your Serenity; and therefore make it our requeſt, That you will vouchſafe to give him Credit in thoſe matters concerning which he has Inſtructions to Treat with your Majeſty, as if all things were Atteſted and Confirm'd by our Perſonal Preſence. *From our Court at* White-Hall, Auguſt —— 1657.

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Oliver *Protector of the Commonwealth of* England, &c. *To the moſt Noble the Conſuls and Senators of the City of* Hamborough.

*Moſt Noble, moſt Magnificent and Worthy,*

THE moſt Accompliſh'd, Colonel *William Jepſon*, a Senator in

in our Parlament, being ſent by us to the moſt Serene King of *Sweden*, is to Travel through your City; and therefore we have given him in Command, not to paſs by your Lordſhips Unſaluted in our Name; and withall to make it our requeſt, That you will be ready to Aſſiſt him upon whatſoever occaſion he ſhall think it requiſite to crave the Aid of your Authority and Counſel. Which the more willingly you ſhall do, the more you ſhall find you have acquir'd our Favour. *From our Court at* Weſtminſter, Auguſt —— 1657.

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*To the moſt Noble the Conſuls and Senators of the City of* Breme.

HOW great our Affection is toward your City, how particular our Good-will, as well upon the account of your Religion, as for the celebrated Splendor of your City, as formerly you have found, ſo when occaſion offers, you ſhall be farther ſenſible

ſenſible. At preſent, in regard the moſt Accompliſh'd Collonel, *William Jepſon*, a Senator in our Parlament, is to Travel through *Bremen* with the Character of our *Envoy Extraordinary* to the King of *Sweden*, 'tis our Pleaſure that he ſalute your Lordſhips lovingly and friendly in our Name: and that if any accident fall out, wherein your Aſſiſtance and Friendſhip may be ſerviceable to him, that he may have free Admiſſion to deſire it, upon the ſcore of our Alliance. Wherein we are confident you will the leſs be wanting, by how much the more reaſon you will have to be aſſur'd of our ſingular Love and Kindneſs for your Lordſhips. *From our Court at* White-Hall, Auguſt — 1657.

Oliver

**Oliver** *Protector of the Commonwealth of* England, *&c. To the moſt Noble the Senators and Conſuls of the City of* Lubeck.

*Moſt Noble, Magnificent, and Right Worſhipful our deareſt Friends,*

COllonel *William Jepſon*, a Perſon of great Honour, and a Senator in our Parlament, is to paſs with the Character of a Publick Miniſter from your City to the King of *Sweden*, encamping not far from it. Wherefore we deſire your Lordſhips, that if occaſion require, upon the account of the Friendſhip and Commerce between us, you will be Aſſiſtant to him in his Journey through your City, and the Territories under your Juriſdiction. As to what remains, it is our farther pleaſure, That you be Saluted in our Name, and that you be aſſur'd of our Good-will and ready Inclinations to ſerve your Lordſhips. *From our Court at* Weſtminſter, Auguſt —— 1657.

*Moſt*

Oliver *Protector of the Commonwealth of* England, *&c. To the City of* Hamborough.

*Moſt Noble, Magnificent, and Right Worſhipful,*

*Philip Meadows*, who brings theſe Letters to your Lordſhips, is to Travel through your City, with the Character of our Agent, to the King of *Danemark*. Therefore we moſt earneſtly recommend him to your Lordſhips, that if any occaſion ſhould happen for him to deſire it, you would be ready to Aid him with your Authority and Aſſiſtance: And we deſire that this our Recommendation may have the ſame weight at preſent with your Lorpſhips as formerly it wont to have; nor ſhall we be wanting to your Lordſhips, upon the ſame Opportunities. *From our Court at* White-Hall, Auguſt — 1657.

Oliver

Oliver *Protector of the Commonwealth of* England *&c. To the moſt Sereae Prince* Frederick *Heir of* Norway, *Duke of* Sleſwic, Holſatia, *and* Ditmarſh, *Count in* Oldenburgh *and* Delmenhorſt.

*Moſt Serene Prince, our deareſt Friend,*

COllonel *William Jepſon*, a Perſon truly Noble in his Countrey, and a Senator in our Parlament, is ſent by us, as our Envoy Extraordinary to the moſt Serene King of *Sweden*; and may it prove Happy and Proſperous for the common Peace and Intereſts of *Chriſtendome*. We have given him Inſtructions, among other things, That in his Journey, after he has Kiſs'd your *Serenities* hands in our Name, and declar'd our former Good-will and conſtant Zeal for your Welfare, to requeſt of your *Serenity* alſo, That being Guarded with your Authority, he may Travel with Safety and Convenience through your Territories. By which kind act of Civility your Highneſs

Highneſs will in a greater meaſure oblige us to returns of anſwerable Kindneſs. *From our Court at* Weſtm. Auguſt —— 1657.

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Oliver *Protector of the Commonwealth of* England, &c. *To the moſt Serene Prince,* Ferdinand *Great Duke of* Tuſcany.

*Moſt Serene Great Duke, our deareſt Friend,*

THE Company of our Merchants, Trading to the *Eaſtern* Coaſts of the *Mediterranean* Sea, by their Petition to us have ſet forth, That *William Ellis*, Maſter of a Ship call'd the *Little Lewis*, being at *Alexandria* in *Egypt*, was hir'd by the *Baſha* of *Memphis*, to carry Rice, Sugar, and Coffee, either to *Conſtantinople* or *Smyrna*, for the uſe of the *Grand Seignior*; but that contrary to his Faith and Promiſe given, he bore away privately from the *Ottoman* Fleet, and brought his Ship and Lading to *Leghorn*; where now he lives in Poſſeſſion of his Prey. Which

Villanous Act, being of dangerous Example, as expoſing the Chriſtian Name to ſcandal, and the Fortunes of our Merchants living under the *Turks* to Violence and Ranſack; we therefore make it our requeſt to your Highneſs, That you will give Command that the ſaid Maſter be Apprehended and Impriſon'd, and that the Veſſel and Goods may remain under ſeizure, till we ſhall have given notice of our care, for the reſtitution of thoſe Goods to the *Sultan*: Aſſuring your Highneſs of our readineſs to make ſuitable returns of gratitude whenever opportunity preſents it ſelf. *From our Court at* Weſtm. Septemb. —— 1657.

Your Highneſs's moſt Affectionate, *Oliver* Protector of the Commonwealth of *England*, &c.

Oliver

Oliver *Protector of the Commonwealth of* England, *&c. To the moſt Serene Prince, the Lord* Frederic William *Marquiſs of* Brandenburgh, &c.

*Moſt Serene Prince, our moſt dear Friend and Confederate,*

BY our laſt Letters to your Highneſs, either already or ſhortly to be deliver'd by our Embaſſador *William Jepſon*, we have imparted the ſubſtance of our Embaſſy to your Highneſs; Which we could not do without ſome mention of your great Vertues, and demonſtration of our own Good will and Affection. Nevertheleſs, That we may not ſeem too ſuperficially to have glided over your tranſcending deſervings of the Proteſtant Intereſts; we thought it proper to reſume the ſame ſubject, and pay our Reſpect and Veneration, not more willingly, or with a greater fervency of Mind, but ſomewhat more at large, to your Highneſs. And truly moſt deſervedly, when

daily Information reaches our ears, That your Faith and Conſcience, by all manner of Artifices Tempted and Aſſail'd, by all manner of Arts and Devices Solicited, yet cannot be ſhaken, or by any Violence be rent from your Friendſhip and Alliance with a moſt Magnanimous Prince and your Confederate: And this, when the Affairs of the *Swedes* are now reduc'd to that condition, that in adhering to their Alliance, 'tis manifeſt that your Highneſs rather conſults the common Cauſe of the Reformed Religion, then your own Advantage. And when your Highneſs is almoſt ſurrounded and beſieg'd by Enemies, either privately lurking, or almoſt at your Gates; yet ſuch is your Conſtancy and Reſolution of Mind, ſuch your Conduct and Proweſs becoming a great General, that the burthen and maſſy bulk of the whole Affair, and the event of this important War, ſeems to reſt and depend upon your ſole determination.

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Wherefore your Highneſs has no reaſon to queſtion but that you may rely upon our Friendſhip and unfeigned Affection; who ſhould think our ſelves worthy to be forſaken of all men's Good word, ſhould we ſeem careleſs in the leaſt of your unblemiſh'd Fidelity, your Conſtancy, and the reſt of your applauded Vertues, or ſhould we pay leſs reſpect to your Highneſs upon the common ſcore of Religion. As to thoſe matters propounded by the moſt Accompliſh'd *John Frederic Schlever*, your Counſellor and Agent here reſiding, if hitherto we could not return an Anſwer, ſuch as we deſir'd to do, though with all aſſiduity and diligence labour'd by your Agent; we intreat your Highneſs to impute it to the preſent condition of our Affairs, and to be aſſur'd, that there is nothing which we account more ſacred, or more earneſtly deſire, then to be ſerviceable and aſſiſting to your Intereſts, ſo bound up with the Cauſe of

Religion. In the mean time we beſeech the God of Mercy and Power, that ſo ſignal a Proweſs and Fortitude may never languiſh or be oppreſs'd, nor be depriv'd the Fruit and due Applauſe of all your Pious Undertakings. *From our Court at* Weſtminſter, September —— 1657.

Your Highneſs's moſt Affectionate, *Oliver* Protector of the Commonwealth of *England*, &c.

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*To the moſt Excellent Lord*, M. de Bourdeaux, *Extraordinary Embaſſador from the moſt Serene King of* France.

*Moſt Excellent Lord,*

*Lucas Lucie* Merchant of *London*, has made his Complaint to the moſt Serene Lord Protector, concerning a certain Ship of his, call'd the *Mary*; which in her Voyage from *Ireland* to *Bayonne*, being driven by Tempeſt into the Port of *St. John de Luz*, was there detain'd by vertue of an Arreſt, at the Suit of one *Martin de Lazan*; nor could ſhe be diſcharg'd

diſcharg'd till the Merchants had given ſecurity to ſtand a Tryal for the Property of the ſaid Ship and Lading. For *Martin* pretended to have a great Sum of Money owing to him by the Parlament for ſeveral Goods of his which in the year 1642. were Seiz'd by Authority of Parlament in a certain Ship call'd the *Sinta Clara*. But it is manifeſt, That *Martin* was not the Owner of the ſaid Goods, only that he Proſecuted the claim of the true Owners *Richald* and *Iriat*, together with his Partner, whoſe name was *Antonio Fernandez*; and that upon the ſaid *Martin* and *Antonio*'s falling out among themſelves, the Parlament Decreed that the ſaid Goods ſhould be ſtop'd till the Law ſhould decide to which of the two they were to be reſtor'd. Upon this, *Antony* was deſirous that the Action ſhould proceed; on the other ſide, neither *Martin*, nor any body for him, has hitherto appear'd in Court: All which is evidently ap-

parent by *Lucas*'s Petition hereto annex'd. So that it ſeems moſt unreaſonable, That he who refus'd to try his pretended Title with *Antonio*, to other mens Goods, in our own Courts, ſhould compel our People and the true Owners to go to Law for their own in a Foreign Dominion. And that the ſame is apparent to your Excellency's Equity and Prudence, the moſt Serene Lord Protector makes no queſtion; by whom I am therefore commanded in a particular manner to recommend this fair and honeſt Cauſe of *Lucas Lucy* to your Excellency's conſideration; to the end that *Martin*, who neglects to try his pretended Right here, may not under that pretence have an opportunity in the *French* Dominions to deprive others of their Rightful claims. *Weſtm. Octob.* — 1657.

Your Excellency's moſt Affectionate.

Oliver

Oliver *Protector of the Commonweolth of* England, *&c. To the moſt Serene Duke, and Senate of the Republick of* Venice.

*Moſt Serene Duke and Senate, our deareſt Friends,*

SO numerous are the Tydings brought us of your fortunate Succeſſes againſt the *Turks*, that there is nothing wherein we have more frequent occaſion to employ our Pens, then in Congratulating your *Serenities* for ſome ſignal Victory. For this ſo recently obtain'd, we give ye Joy, as being not onely moſt Auſpicious and Seaſonable to your Republick, but which is more Glorious, ſo greatly tending to the Deliverance of all the Chriſtians groaning under *Turkiſh* Servitude. More particularly we recommend to your *Serenity* and the *Senate Thomas Galily*, formerly Maſter of the Ship call'd the *Relief*, who for theſe Five years together has bin a Slave; tho this be not the firſt time we have interceded in his behalf; yet now we do it the

more freely, as in a time of more then ordinary Exultation. He, having receiv'd your Commands to ſerve your Republick with his Ship, and Engaging alone with ſeveral of the Enemies Gallies, Sunk ſome, and made a great havock among the reſt; but at length his Ship being Burnt, the Brave Commander, and ſo well deſerving of the *Venetian* Republick, was taken, and ever ſince for Five years together, has endur'd a miſerable Bondage under the Barbarians. To redeem himſelf he had not wherewithall; for whatſoever he had, that he makes out, was owing to him by your Highneſs and the Senate, upon the account either of his Ship, his Goods, or for his Wages. Now in regard he may not want Relief, and for that the Enemy refuſes to diſcharge him upon any other condition, then by exchange of ſome other perſon of equal value and reputation to himſelf, we moſt earneſtly intreat your Highneſs and the moſt Serene

Senate,

Senate, and the Afflicted Old man, Father of the ſaid *Thomas*, full of Grief and Tears, which not a little mov'd us, by our Interceſſion begs, That in regard ſo many proſperous Combats have made ye Maſters of ſo many *Turkiſh* Priſoners, you will exchange ſome one of their Number, whom the Enemy will accept for ſo ſtout a Seaman taken in your Service, our Countreyman, and the onely Son of a moſt ſorrowful Father. Laſtly, That whatſoever is due to him from the Republick, upon the ſcore of Wages, or upon any other account, you will take care to ſee it paid to his Father, or to whom he ſhall appoint to receive it. The effect of our firſt requeſt, or rather of your Equity was this, that the whole matter was examin'd, and upon an exact ſtating of the accounts the Debt was agreed; but perhaps by reaſon of more important buſineſs intervening, no payment enſu'd upon it. Now the condition of the miſerable

miſerable Creature admits of no longer delay; and therefore ſome endeavour muſt be us'd, if it be worth your while to deſire his welfare, that he may ſpeedily be deliver'd from the noyſome Stench of Impriſonment. Which, as you flouriſh no leſs in Juſtice, Moderation and Prudence, then in Military Fame and Victorious Succeſs, we are confident you will ſee done, of your own innate Humanity and Free will, without any heſitation, without any incitement of ours. Now that ye may long flouriſh, after a moſt Potent Enemy ſubdu'd, our daily Prayers implore of the Almighty. *From our Court at* Weſtminſter, October —— 1657.

Your Highneſſes moſt Affectionate, *Oliver* Protector of the Commonwealth of *England*, &c.

Oliver

Oliver *Protector of the Commonwealth of* England, &c. *To the High and Mighty Lords, the States of the* United Provinces.

*Moſt High and Mighty Lords, our deareſt Friends and Confederates,*

THE moſt Illuſtrious *William Nuport*, your Extraordinary Embaſſador for ſome years reſiding with us, is now returning to your Lordſhips; but with this condition, That after this reſpit obtain'd from your Lordſhips, he ſhall return again in a ſhort time. For he has remain'd among us, in the diſcharge of his Truſt, with that Fidelity, Vigilance, Prudence and Equity, that neither you nor we could deſire greater Vertue and Probity in an Embaſſador, and a Perſon of unblemiſhed Reputation; with thoſe inclinations and endeavours to preſerve Peace and Friendſhip between us, without any fraud or diſſimulation, that while he officiates the duty of your

your Embaſſador, we do not find what occaſion of ſcruple or offence can ariſe in either Nation. And we ſhould brook his departue with ſo much the more anxiety of mind, conſidering the preſent juncture of times and affairs, were we not aſſur'd, that no man can better or more faithfully declare and repreſent to your Lordſhips, either the preſent condition of Affairs, or our Good-will and Affection to your Government. Being therefore every way ſo excellent a Perſon, and ſo well deſerving both of yours and our Republick, we requeſt your Lordſhips to receive him returning, ſuch as we unwillingly diſmiſs him, laden with the real Teſtimonials of our Applauſes. Almighty God grant all Proſperity to your Affairs and perpetuate our Friendſhip, to his Glory, and the ſupport of his Orthodox Church. *From our Court at* Weſtminſter November —— 1657.

Your High and Mightineſſes moſt devoted.

Oliver

Oliver *Protector of the Commonwealth of* England, &c. *To the High and Mighty Lords the States of the* United Provinces.

*Moſt High and Mighty Lords, our deareſt Friends and Confederates,*

*George Downing* is a Perſon of Eminent Quality, and after a long trial of his Fidelity, Probity and Diligence, in ſeveral and various Negotiations, well approv'd and valu'd by us. Him we have thought fitting to ſend to your Lordſhips, dignify'd with the Character of our Agent, and amply furniſh'd with our Inſtructions. We therefore deſire your Lordſhip to receive him kindly, and that ſo often as he ſhall ſignify that he has any thing to impart in our Name to your Lordſhips, you will admit him free Audience, and give the ſame Credit to him, and entruſt him with whatſoever you have to communicate to us: which you may ſafely do, as if our ſelves were perſonally preſent. And ſo we beſeech Almighty God

God to bleſs your Lordſhips, and your Republick with all proſperity, to the Glory of God, and the Support of his Church. *From our Court at* White-Hall, *Decemb.* —— 1657.

Your High and Mightineſſes moſt Affectionate *Oliver*, &c.

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*To the States of* Holland.

THere being an Alliance between our Republick and yours, and thoſe Affairs to be tranſacted on both ſides, that without an Agent and Interpreter, ſent either by your ſelves, or from us, matters of ſuch great moment can hardly be adjuſted to the advantage of both Nations, we thought it conducing to the common good of both Republicks to ſend *George Downing*, a Perſon of Eminent Quality, and long in our knowledge and eſteem for his undoubted Fidelity, Probity and Diligence, in many and various Negotiations, dignifi'd with the Character of our Agent, to reſide

reſide with your Lordſhips, and chiefly to take care of thoſe things, by which the Peace between us may be preſerv'd entire and diuturnal. Concerning which we have not onely written to the *States*, but alſo thought it requiſite to give notice alſo of the ſame to your Lordſhips, Supreme in the Government of your Province, and who make ſo conſiderable a Part of the *United Provinces*; to the end you may give that reception to our Reſident which becomes him, and that whatever he Tranſacts with your *High and Mighty States*, you may aſſure your ſelves ſhall be as firm and irrevocable, as if our ſelves had bin preſent in the Negotiation. Now the moſt Merciful God direct all your Counſels and Actions to his Glory and the Peace of his Church. *Weſtm. Decemb.* — 1657.

Oliver

Oliver *Protector of the Commonwealth of* England, *&c. to the moſt Serene Prince,* Ferdinand *Great Duke of* Tuſcany.

*Moſt Serene Great Duke, our much Honour'd Friend,*

YOur Highneſs's Letters, bearing date from *Florence* the 10th. of *Novemb.* gave us no ſmall occaſion of content and ſatisfaction; finding therein your Good will toward us, ſo much the more conſpicuous, by how much Deeds then Words, Performances then Promiſes, are the more certain marks of a cordial Affection. For what we requeſted of your Highneſs, That you would command the Maſter of the *Little Lewis*, *William Ellis*, who moſt ignominiouſly broke his Faith with the *Turks*, and the Ship and Goods to be Seiz'd and Detain'd, till Reſtitution ſhould be made to the *Turks*, leaſt the *Cnriſtian* Name ſhould receive any Blemiſh by Thieveries of the like nature; all thoſe things, and that too with an extraordinary zeal,

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as we moſt gladly underſtood before, your Highneſs writes that you have ſeen diligently perform'd. We therefore return our Thanks for the kindneſs receiv'd, and make it our farther requeſt, That when the Merchants have given ſecurity to ſatisfie the *Turks*, the Maſter may be diſcharg'd, and the Ship, together with her Lading, be forthwith diſmis'd, to the end we may not ſeem to have had more care perhaps of the *Turks* Intereſt, then our own Countreymen. In the mean time we take ſo kindly this ſurpaſſing favour done us by your Highneſs, and moſt acceptable to us, that we ſhould not refuſe to be branded with ingratitude, if we ſhould not ardently deſire a ſpeedy opportunity, with the ſame promptitude of Mind, to gratifie your Highneſs, whereby we might be enabl'd to demonſtrate our readineſs to return the ſame good offices to ſo noble a Benefactor upon all

all occaſions. *From our Court at* Weſtm. Decemb. —— 1657.

Your Highneſſes moſt Affectionate, *Oliver*, &c.

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Oliver *Protector of the Commonwealth of* England, &c. *To the moſt Serene and Potent Prince*, Charles Guſtavus, *King of the* Swedes, Goths, *and* Vandals, *&c.*

*Moſt Serene and Potent Prince, our moſt Invincible Friend and Confederate,*

BY your Majeſty's Letters, dated the 21ſt. of *February* from your Camp in *Seland*, we found many reaſons to be affected with no ſmall joy, as well for our own particular, as in regard of the whole Chriſtian Republick in general. In the firſt place, becauſe the King of *Danemark*, being become an Enemy, not induc'd thereto, as we are apt to believe, by his own Inclinations or Intereſts, but deluded by the Artifices of our common Adverſaries, is reduc'd to that condition by your ſudden irruption into the very heart of his

his Kingdom, with very little blood ſhed on either ſide, that what was really true, he will at length be perſwaded that Peace would have bin more beneficial to him, then the War which he has enter'd into againſt your Majeſty. Then again, when he ſhall conſider with himſelf, that he cannot obtain it by any more ſpeedy means, then by making uſe of our Aſſiſtance long ſince offer'd him to procure a Reconciliation, in regard your Majeſty ſo readily intreated by the Letters onely, deliver'd by our Agent, by ſuch an eaſy conceſſion of Peace, moſt clearly made it apparent how highly you eſteem'd the Interceſſion of our Friendſhip, he will certainly apply himſelf to us; and then our Interpoſition in ſo Pious a work, will chiefly require, that we ſhould be the ſole Reconciler and almoſt Author of that Peace, ſo beneficial to the Intereſts of the Proteſtants; which, as we hope, will ſuddenly be accompliſh'd. For when the

the Enemies of Religion ſhall deſpair of breaking your United Forces by any other means then ſetting both your Majeſties at variance, then their own fears will overtake 'em, leſt this unexpected Conjunction, which we ardently deſire, of your Arms and Minds, ſhould turn to the deſtruction of them that were the Kindlers of the War. In the mean time, moſt Magnanimous King, may your Proweſs go on and proſper; and the ſame felicity which the Enemies of the Church have admir'd in the Progreſs of your Atchievements, and the ſteady Careir of your Victories, againſt a Prince, now your Confederate, the ſame, by God's aſſiſtance, may you enforce 'em to behold once more in their ſubverſion. *From our Palace at* Weſtminſter, *March* 30. 1658.

Oliver

Oliver *Protector of the Commonwealth of* England, *&c. To the moſt Serene Prince* Ferdinand, *Great Duke of* Tuſcany.

*Moſt Serene Prince,*

THE Anſwer which we have given to your Agent here reſiding, we believe, will fully ſatisfy your Highneſs, as to our Admiral, who but lately put into your Ports. In the mean time, *John Hoſier*, Maſter of a Ship, call'd the *Owner*, has ſet forth in a Petition to us, that in *April*, 1656. he hir'd out his Ship, by a Charter-party Agreement, to one *Joſeph Arman*, an *Italian*, who manifeſtly broke all the Covenants therein contain'd; ſo that he was enforc'd, leſt he ſhould loſe his Ship and Lading, together with his whole Principal Stock, openly to ſet forth the fraud of his Freighter, after the manner of Merchants; and when he had caus'd it to be regiſter'd by a Publick Notary, to ſue him at *Leghorne*. *Joſeph*, on the other ſide, that

that he might make good one Fraud by another, combining with two other Litigious Traders, upon a faign'd Pretence, by Perjury, ſeiz'd upon Six thouſand *Pieces of Eight*, the Money of one *Thomas Clutterbuck*. But as for his part, the ſaid *Hoſier*, after great Expences and loſs of time, could never obtain his Right and Due at *Leghorn*: Nor durſt he there appear in Court, being threaten'd as he was, and way-lay'd by his Adverſaries. We therefore requeſt your Highneſs, that you would vouchſafe your Aſſiſtance to this poor Oppreſt Man, and according to your wonted Juſtice, reſtrain the Inſolence of his Adverſary. For in vain are Laws ordain'd for the government of Cities by the Authority of Princes, if Wrong and Violence, when they cannot abrogate, ſhall be able by Threats and Terror to fruſtrate the Refuge and Sanctuary of the Laws. However, we make no doubt, but that your Highneſs will ſpeedily take care to puniſh

puniſh a daring Boldneſs of this nature; beſeeching Almighty God to bleſs your Highneſs with Peace and Proſperity. *From our Court at* Weſtminſter, *April* 7. 1658.

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*To the moſt Serene and Potent Prince* Lewis, *King of* France.

*Moſt Serene and Potent King, and moſt Auguſt Friend and Confederate,*

YOUR Majeſty may call to mind, that at the ſame time, when the renewing the League between us was in agitation, and no leſs auſpiciouſly concluded, as the many Advantages from thence accrewing to both Nations, and the many Annoyances thence attending the Common Enemy, ſufficiently teſtify, thoſe dreadful Butcheries befel the *Piedmontois*, and that we recommended with great fervency of mind and compaſſion, their Cauſe on all ſides forſaken and afflicted, to your Commiſeration and Protection.

Nor do we believe, that your Majesty, of your self, was wanting in a Duty so pious, that we may not say, beseeming Common humanity, as far as your Authority, and the Veneration due to your Person, could prevail with the Duke of *Savoy*. Certain we are, that neither our selves, nor many other Princes and Cities were wanting in our Performances, by the Interposition of Embassies, Letters, aud Intreaties. After a most bloody Butchery of both Sexes, and all Ages, at length Peace was granted, or rather a certain Clandestine Hostility cover'd over with the name of Peace. The Conditions of Peace were agreed in your Town of *Pignerol*; severe and hard; but such, as those miserable and indigent Creatures, after they had suffer'd all that could be endur'd that was oppressive and barbarous, would have been glad of, had they been but observ'd, as hard and unjust as they were. But by false Constructions, and

and various Evaſions, the Aſſurances of all theſe Articles are eluded and violated: Many are thruſt out from their ancient Abodes; many are forbid the Exerciſe of their Religion; new Tributes are exacted; a new Citadel is impos'd upon them; from whence the Soldiers frequently making Excurſions, either plunder or murther all they meet. Add to all this, That new Levies are privately preparing againſt 'em; and all that embrace the *Proteſtant Religion* are commanded to depart by a prefix'd day; ſo that all things ſeem to threaten the utter extermination of thoſe deplorable Wretches, whom the former Maſſaker ſpar'd. Which I moſt earneſtly beſeech and conjure ye, *Moſt Chriſtian King*, by *that* RIGHT HAND, *which ſign'd the League* and Friendſhip between us, by *that ſame goodly Ornament of your Title* of MOST CHRISTIAN, by no means to ſuffer; nor to permit ſuch liberty of Rage and Fury uncontroul'd, we will

not ſay, in any Prince, (for certainly ſuch barbarous Severity could never enter the breaſt of any Prince, much leſs ſo tender in years, nor into the female thoughts of his Mother) but in thoſe ſanctifi'd Cut-throats, who profeſſing themſelves to be the Servants and Diſciples of our Saviour Chriſt, who came into this World to ſave Sinners, abuſe his meek and peaceful Name and Precepts to the moſt cruel ſlaughter of the Innocent. Reſcue you that are able, in your towring Station worthy to be able, reſcue ſo many Suppliants proſtrate at your feet, from the hands of Ruffians, who lately drunk with Blood, again thirſt after it, and think it their ſafeſt way to throw the Odium of their Cruelty upon Princes. But as for you, great Prince, ſuffer not, while you reign, your Titles, nor the Confines of your Kingdom, to be contaminated with this ſame Heaven-offending Scandal, nor the peaceful Goſpel of Chriſt to be defil'd with

ſuch

ſuch abominable Cruelty. Remember that they ſubmitted themſelves to your Grandfather *Henry*, moſt friendly to the Proteſtants, when the Victorious *Leſdiguieres* purſu'd the retreating *Savoyard* o're the *Alpes*. There is alſo an Inſtrument of that Submiſſion regiſter'd among the Publick Acts of your Kingdom, wherein it is excepted and provided among other things, That from that time forward the *Piemontois* ſhould not be deliver'd over into the Power of any Ruler, but upon the ſame Conditions upon which your Invincible Grandfather receiv'd them into his Protection. This Protection of your Grandfather, theſe Suppliants now implore from you as Grandchild. 'Tis your Majeſty's part, to whom thoſe People now belong, to give 'em that protection which they have choſen, by ſome exchange of Habitation, if they deſire it, and it may be done: Or if that be a Labour too difficult, at leaſt to ſuccour 'em

with your Patronage, your Commiſeration, and your admittance into Sanctuary. And there are ſome Reaſons of State to encourage your Majeſty not to refuſe the *Piemontois* a ſafe *Aſylum* in your Kingdom: But I am unwilling that you, ſo great King, ſhould be induc'd to the defence and ſuccour of the miſerable by any other Arguments then thoſe of your Anceſtor's pledg'd Faith, your own Piety, Royal Benignity and Magnanimity. Thus the Immaculate and intire Glory of a moſt Egregious Act will be your own, and you will find the Father of Mercy, and his Son, *King Chriſt*, whoſe Name and Doctrine you have vindicated from nefarious Inhumanity, ſo much the more favourable and propitious to your Majeſty, all your days. The God of Mercy and Power infuſe into your Majeſty's Heart a Reſolution to defend and ſave ſo many Innocent Chriſtians, and maintain your own Honour.

*Weſtm. May* — 1658.

To

*To the Evangelick Cities of the* Switzers.

*Illuſtrious and moſt Noble Lords, our deareſt Friends,*

HOW heavy and intolerable the Sufferings of the *Piemontois*, your moſt afflicted Neigbours, have bin, and how unmercifully they have been dealt with by their own Prince, for the ſake of their Religion, by reaſon of the Felneſs of the Cruelties, we almoſt tremble to remember, and thought it ſuperfluous to put you in mind of thoſe things, which are much better known to your Lordſhips. We have alſo ſeen Copies of the Letters, which your Embaſſadors, Promoters and Witneſſes of the Peace, concluded at *Pignerol*, wrote to the Duke of *Savoy*, and the Preſident of his Council at *Turin*; wherein they ſet forth, and make it out, that all the Conditions of the ſaid Peace are broken, and were rather a Snare then a Security to thoſe miſerable People. Which Violation continu'd from the

Concluſion of the Peace to this very moment, and ſtill growing more heavy every day then other: unleſs they patiently endure, unleſs they lay themſelves down to be trampl'd under foot, plaſh'd like Mortar, or abjure their Religion, the ſame Calamities, the ſame Slaughters, hang over their Heads, which three years ſince, made ſuch a dreadful havock of them, their Wives and Children; and which, if it muſt be undergone once more, will certainly prove the utter extirpation of their whole Race. What ſhall ſuch miſerable Creatures do? in whoſe behalf no Interceſſion will avail, to whom no breathing time is allow'd, nor any certain place of Refuge. They have to do with Wild Beaſts, or Furies rather, upon whom the remembrance of their former Murders has wrought no compaſſion upon their Countrymen, no ſenſe of humanity, nor ſatiated their ravenous hunger after blood. Moſt certainly theſe things are not to be endur'd, if

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we desire the safety of our Brethren the *Piemontois*, most Ancient Professors of the Orthodox Faith, or the Welfare of our Religion it self. As for our selves, so far remote, we have not been wanting to assist 'em as far as in us lay, nor shall we cease our future Aid. But you, who not only lie so near adjoining, as to behold the Butcheries, and hear the Outcries and Shrieks of the Distressed, but are also next expos'd to the fury of the same Enemies; consider for the sake of the Immortal God, and that in time, what it behoves ye now to do: Consult your Prudence, your Piety, and your Fortitude, what succour, what relief and safegard you are able, and are bound to afford your Neighbours and Brethren, who must else undoubtedly and speedily perish. Certainly the same Religion is the cause, why the same Enemies seek also your Perdition; why, at the same time the last year, they meditated your ruin, by Intestine Broiles among your selves. It

ſeems to be only in your power, next under God, to prevent the Extirpation of this moſt Ancient *Scien* of the Purer Religion, in theſe remainders of the Primitive Believers; whoſe preſervation, now reduc'd to the very brink of utter ruin, if you neglect, beware that the next Turn be not your own. Theſe Admonitions, while we give ye freely, and out of Brotherly love, we are not quite as yet caſt down: For what lies only in our power ſo far diſtant, as we have hitherto, ſo ſhall we ſtill employ our utmoſt Endeavours, not only to procure the ſafety of our Brethren upon the preçipice of danger, but alſo to relieve their Wants. May the Almighty God vouchſafe to both of us that peace and tranquility at home, that ſettlement of Times and Affairs, that we may be able to employ all our Wealth and Force, all our Studies and Counſels in the defence of his Church againſt the Rage and Fury of her Enemies. *From our Court at* White-Hall, *May* — 1658.

*To his Eminency Cardinal* Mazarin.

*Moſt Eminent Lord,*

THE late moſt Grievous Cruelties, and moſt Bloody Slaughters perpetrated upon the Inhabitants of the Valleys of *Piemont*, within the Duke of *Savoy*'s Dominions, occaſion'd the writing of the inclos'd Letters to his Majeſty, and theſe other to your *Eminency*. And as we make no doubt but that ſuch Tyranny, Inhumanities, ſo rigorouſly inflicted upon harmleſs and indigent People, are highly diſpleaſing and offenſive to the moſt Serene King; ſo we readily perſuade our ſelves, that what we requeſt from his Majeſty in behalf of thoſe unfortunate Creatures, your Eminency will employ your endeavour, and your favour to obtain, as an accumulation to our Interceſſions. Seeing there is nothing which has acquir'd more good-will and affection to the *French* Nation, among

all

all the Neighbouring Profeſſors of the Reformed Religion, then that Liberty and thoſe Privileges, which by publick Acts and Edicts are granted in that Kingdom to the Proteſtants. And this among others was one main Reaſon, why this Republick ſo ardently deſir'd the Friendſhip and Alliance of the *French* People. For the ſetling of which we are now treating with the King's Embaſſador, and have made thoſe progreſſes, that the Treaty is almoſt brought to a concluſion. Beſides that, your Eminency's ſingular Benignity and Moderation, which in the management of the moſt Important Affairs of the Kingdom, you have always teſtifi'd to the Proteſtants of *France*, encourages us to expect what we promiſe to our ſelves from your Prudence and Generoſity; whereby you will not only lay the foundations of a ſtricter Alliance between this Republick and the Kingdom of *France*, but oblige us in particular to Returns of all good Offices of Civili-

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ty and Kindneſs: And of this we deſire your Eminency to reſt aſſur'd.

*Your Eminency's moſt Affectionate.*

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Oliver *Protector of the Commonwealth of* England, &c. *To the moſt Serene and Potent Prince,* Lewis *King of* France.

*Moſt Serene and Potent King, our moſt Auguſt Friend and Confederate.*

IT being the intention of *Thomas* Viſcount *Falconbridge*, our Son-in-Law, to Travel into *France*, and no leſs his deſire, out of his profound Reſpect and Veneration to your Majeſty, to be admitted to Kiſs your Royal hands; though by reaſon of his pleaſing Converſation we are unwilling to part with him, nevertheleſs not doubting but he will in a ſhort time return from the Court of ſo great a Prince, celebrated for the reſort of ſo many Prudent and Couragious Perſons, more nobly pre-

par'd

par'd for great Performances, and fully Accompliſh'd in whatſoever may be thought moſt Laudable and Vertuous, we did not think it fit to put a ſtop to his generous Reſolutions. And though he be a Perſon, who, unleſs we deceive our ſelves, carries his own Recommendations about him, whereſoe're he goes; yet if he ſhall find himſelf ſomewhat the more favour'd by your Majeſty for our ſake, we ſhall think our ſelves Honour'd and Oblig'd by the ſame Kindneſs. God Almighty long preſerve your Majeſty in ſafety, and continue a laſting Peace between us, to the common Good of the Chriſtian world. *From our Court at* White-May —— 1658.

Oliver

Oliver *Protector of the Commonwealth of* England, &c. *To the moſt Eminent Lord Cardinal* Mazarin.

*Moſt Eminent Lord,*

HAving Recommended to the moſt Serene King, *Thomas* Viſcount *Falconbridge* our Son-in-Law, deſirous to ſee *France*; we could not but acquaint your Eminency with it, and Recommend him in like manner to your ſelf; not ignorant of what moment and importance it will be to our Recommendation firſt given him. For certainly, what benefit or advantage he ſhall reap by reſiding in your Countrey, which he hopes will not be ſmall, he cannot but be beholding for the greateſt part of it to your Favour and Good-will; whoſe ſingle Prudence and Vigilancy, Supports and Manages the grand Affairs of that Kingdom. Whatever therefore grateful Obligation your Eminency ſhall lay upon him, you may be aſſur'd you lay upon our ſelves, and that

that we ſhall number it among your many Kindneſſes and Civilities already ſhew'd us. *Weſtm. May* — 1658.

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Oliver *Protector &c. To the moſt Eminent Lord Cardinal* Mazarin.

*Moſt Eminent Lord,*

HAving ſent the moſt Illuſtrious *Thomas Bellaſis*, Viſcount *Falconbridge*, our Son-in-Law, to Congratulate the King, upon his arrival in the Camp at *Dunkirk*, I gave him Order to attend and wiſh your Eminency long Life and Health in our Name, and to return Thanks to your Eminency, by whoſe Fidelity, Prudence and Vigilancy, it chiefly comes to paſs, that the Affairs of *France* are carri'd on with ſuch Succeſs in ſeveral parts, but more eſpecially in near-adjoining *Flanders*, againſt our common Enemy the *Spaniard*; from whom we hope that open and Armed Courage now will ſoon exact a rigorous account of all his Frauds and Trea-

Treacheries. Which that it may be ſpeedily done, we ſhall not be wanting, either with our Forces, as far as in us lies, or with our Prayers to Heaven. *From our Court at* White-Hall, May —— 1658.

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Oliver *Protector of the Commonwealth of* England, &c. *To the moſt Serene and Potent Prince,* Lewis *King of* France.

*Moſt Serene and Potent Prince, our moſt Auguſt Friend and Confederate,*

SO ſoon as the News was brought us, That your Majeſty was arriv'd in your Camp, and was ſate down with ſo conſiderable an Army before *Dunkirk*, that infamous neſt of Pyrates, and Place of Refuge for Sea-Robbers, we were greatly over-joy'd, in certain aſſurance, that in a ſhort time now, with God's Aſſiſtance, the Seas will be more open and leſs infeſted by thoſe Plundering Rovers; and that your Majeſty, by your Military Proweſs, will now take

take ſpeedy Vengeance of the *Spaniſh* Frauds; by whom one Captain was by Gold corrupted to the Betraying of *Heſden*; another Treacherouſly Surpriz'd at *Oſtend*. We therefore ſend the moſt Noble, *Thomas* Viſcount *Falconbridge*, our Son-in Law, to Congratulate your Majeſty's arrival in your Camp ſo near us, and that your Majeſty may underſtand from his own lips, with what Affection we labour the Proſperity of your Atchievemants, not onely with our united Forces, but with our cordial Prayers, that God would long preſerve your Majeſty, and perpetuate our eſtabliſh'd Friendſhip, to the common Good of the Chriſtian world. *From our Court at* Weſtm. May —— 1658.

*To*

*To the most Serene Prince,* Ferdinand *Grand Duke of* Tuscany.

*Most Serene Great Duke,*

IN regard your Highness in all your Letters, has ever signifi'd your Extraordinary Affection toward us, we are not a little griev'd, that either it should be so obscurely imparted to your Governors and Ministers, or by them so ill interpreted, that we can reap no benefit or sign of it, in your Port of *Leghorn*, where your Friendship toward us ought to be most clearly and truly understood: Rather, That we should find the Minds of your Subjects daily more averse and hostile in their demeanor toward us. For how unkindly our Fleet was lately treated at *Leghorn*, how little accommodated with necessary Supplies, in what a Hostile manner twice constrain'd to depart the Harbour, we are sufficiently given to understand as well from undoubted Witnesses upon the Place, as from our Admiral himself, to whose Relation we cannot but give Credit, when we have thought him worthy to Command our Fleet. Upon his first arrival in *January*, after he had caus'd our Letters to be deliver'd to your Highness, and all Offices of Civility had pass'd between

our

our People and yours; when he desir'd the Accommodation of *Porto Ferraro*; answer was made, it could not be granted, least the King of *Spain*, that is to say, our Enemy should be Offended. And yet what is there which a Prince in Friendship more frequently allows to his Confederate, then free entrance into his Ports and Harbours? Or what is there that we can expect from a Friendship of this nature, more ready to do us unkindness then befriend us, or aid us with the smalleſt Assistance, for fear of provoking the displeasure of our Enemies. At first indeed, *Prattick* was allow'd, tho onely to Two or Three of our Seamen out of every Ship, who had the Favour to go ashoar. But soon after, it being nois'd in the Town, That our Ships had taken a *Dutch* Vessel Laden with Corn for *Spain*, that little *Prattick* we had was Prohibited; *Longland*, the *English* Consul, was not permitted to go aboard the Fleet; The liberty of taking in Fresh water, which is ever free to all that are not open Enemies, was not suffer'd, but under Armed Guards, at a severe rate; and our Merchants which reside in the Town, to the vast emolument of your People, were forbid to Visit their Countreymen, or Assist 'em in the least. Upon his last arrival, toward the latter end

end of *March*, no body was ſuffer'd to come Aſhoar. The fifth day after, when our Admiral had taken a ſmall *Neapolitan* Veſſel which fell into our hands by chance, above Two hunder'd great ſhot were made at our Fleet from the Town, though without any damage to us. Which was an argument, that what provok'd your Governors without a cauſe, as if the Rights of your Harbour had bin violated, was done out at Sea, at a great diſtance from your Town or the Juriſdiction of the Caſtle. Preſently our Long-boats ſent to take in Freſh water, were aſſail'd in the Port, and one taken and detain'd; which being redemanded, anſwer was made, That neither the Skiff nor the Seamen ſhould be reſtor'd, unleſs the *Neapolitan* Veſſel were diſmis'd; tho certain it is, that ſhe was taken in the open Sea, where it was lawful to Seize her. So that ours, after many Inconveniences ſuffer'd, were forc'd at length to ſet Sail, and leave behind 'em the Proviſion, for which they had paid ready Money. Theſe things, if they were not done by your Highneſs's Conſent and Command, as we hope they were not, we deſire you would make it appear by the Puniſhment of thé Governor, who ſo eaſily preſum'd to violate his Maſter's Alliances; but if they were done with

with your Highneſs Approbation and Order, we would have your Highneſs underſtand, that as we always had a ſingular value for your Friendſhip, ſo we have learnt to diſtinguiſh between Injuries and Acts of Kindneſs. *From our Court at* White-Hall, May —— 1658.

Your good Friend, ſo far as we may, *Oliver* Protector of the Commonwealth of *England*, &c.

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Oliver *Protector of the Commonwealth of* England, *&c. To the moſt Serene and Potent Prince,* Lewis *King of* France.

*Moſt Serene and Potent Prince, our moſt Auguſt Confederate and Friend,*

BY ſo ſpeedily repaying our profound Reſpect to your Majeſty, with an Accumulation of Honour, by ſuch an Illuſtrious Embaſſy to our Court; you have not onely made known to us, but to all the People of *England*, your ſingular Benignity and Generoſity of Mind, but alſo how much you favour our Reputation and Dignity. For which we return our moſt cordial Thanks to your Majeſty, as juſtly you have merited from us. As for the Victory which God has given, moſt fortunate, to our

our United Forces againſt our Enemies, we rejoyce with your Majeſty for it; and that our People in that Battel were not wanting to your Aſſiſtance, nor the Military Glory of their Anceſtors, nor their own Priſtin Fortitude, is moſt grateful to us. As for *Dunkirk*, which as your Majeſty Wrote, you were in hopes was near Surrender: 'tis a great addition to our joy to hear from your Majeſty ſuch ſpeedy Tidings, that it is abſolutely now in your Victorious hands; and we hope moreover, that the loſs of one City will not ſuffice to repay the twofold Treachery of the *Spaniard*, but that your Majeſty will in a ſhort time Write us the welcome News of the Surrender alſo of the other Town. As to your Promiſe, That you will take care of our Intereſts, we miſtruſt it not in the leaſt, upon the Word of a moſt Excellent King and our moſt aſſured Friend, confirm'd withal by your Embaſſador, the moſt accompliſh'd Duke of *Crequi*. Laſtly, we beſeech Almighty God to proſper your Majeſty and the Affairs of *France*, both in Peace and War. *Weſtminſter*, *June* — 1658.

Oliver

Oliver *Protector of the Commonwealth of* England, *&c. To the most Eminent Lord, Cardinal* Mazarin.

*Most Eminent Lord,*

WHile we are returning Thanks to the most Serene King, who to Honour and Congratulate us, as also to intermix his Joy with ours for the late glorious Victory, has sent a splendid Embassy to our Court; we should be ungrateful, should we not also by our Letters pay our due acknowledgments to your *Eminency*; who to testifie your Good-will toward us, and how much you make it your study to do us all the Honour which lyes within your power, have sent your Nephew to us, a most Excellent and most Accomplish'd young Gentleman; and if you had any nearer Relation, or any Person whom you valu'd more, would have sent him more especially to us, as you declare in your Letters; adding withal the Reason, which coming from so great a Personage, we deem no small advantage to our Praise and Ornament; that is to say, to the end that they who are most nearly Related to your Eminency in Blood, might learn to imitate your Eminency in shewing Respect and Honour to our

our Perſon. And we would have it not to be their meaneſt ſtrife to follow your Example of Civility, Candour, and Friendſhip to us; ſince there are not more conſpicuous Examples of extraordinary Prudence and Vertue to be imitated then in your Eminency; from whence they may learn with equal Renown to Govern Kingdoms, and manage the moſt important Affairs of the World. Which that your Eminency may long and happily Adminiſter, to the Proſperity of the whole Realm of *France*, to the common Good of the whole Chriſtian Republick, and your own Glory, we ſhall never be wanting in our Prayers to implore.

*From our Court at* White-Hall, *June* — 1658.

Your Excellency's moſt Affectionate.

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Oliver *Protector of the Commonwealth of* England, *&c. To the moſt Serene and Potent Prince*, Charles Guſtavus, *King of the* Swedes, Goths *and* Vandals, *&c.*

*Moſt Serene and Potent Prince, our deareſt Confederate and Friend,*

AS often as we behold the buſy Counſels, and various Artifices of the common Enemies of Religion, ſo often do we revolve in our Minds, how neceſſary it would be, and how much for the ſafety of the Chriſtian world, that the Proteſtant

ſtant Princes, and moſt eſpecially your Majeſty, ſhould be united with our Republick in a moſt ſtrict and ſolemn Confederacy. Which how ardently and zealouſly it has bin ſought by our ſelves, how acceptable it would have bin to us, if ours, and the Affairs of *Swedeland*, had bin in that poſture and condition, if the ſaid League could have bin ſacredly concluded to the good liking of both, and that the one could have bin a ſeaſonable Succour to the other, we declar'd to your Embaſſadors, when firſt they enter'd into Treaty with us upon this Subject. Nor were they wanting in their duty; but the ſame Prudence which they were wont to ſhew in other things, the ſame Wiſdom and Sedulity they made known in this Affair. But ſuch was the Perfidiouſneſs of our wicked and reſtleſs Countrey-men at home, who being often receiv'd into our Protection, ceas'd not however to machinate new diſturbances, and to reſume their formerly often fruſtrated and diſſipated Conſpiracies with our Enemies the *Spaniards*, that being altogether taken up with the preſervation of our ſelves from ſurrounding dangers, we could not bend our whole care and our entire Forces, as we wiſh'd we could have done, to defend the common Cauſe of Religion. Nevertheleſs what lay in our power, we have

have already zealouſly perform'd; and whatever for the future may conduce to your Majeſty's Intereſts, we ſhall not onely ſhew our ſelves willing, but induſtrious to carry on, in union with your Majeſty, upon all occaſions. In the mean time, we moſt gladly Congratulate your Majeſty's Victories moſt Prudently and Couragiouſly atchiev'd, and in our daily Prayers implore Almighty God long to continue to your Majeſty a ſteady courſe of Conqueſt and Felicity, to the Glory of his Name. *From our Court at* White-Hall, June —— 1658.

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Oliver *Protector of the Commonwealth of* England, *&c. To the moſt Serene Prince the King of* Portugal.

*Moſt Serene King, our Friend and Confederate,*

JOhn *Buffield*, of *Loudon* Merchant, has ſet forth in a Petition to us, That in the year 1649. he deliver'd certain Goods to *Anthony*, *John*, and *Manuel Ferdinando Caſtaneo*, Merchants in *Tamira*, to the end that after they had ſold 'em, they might give him a juſt account, according to the Cuſtome of Merchants; after which, in his Voyage for *England*, he fell into the hands of Pyrates, and being Plunder'd by 'em, receiv'd no ſmall Damage. Upon this News, *Antony* and *Manuel*, believing he had bin Kill'd,

preſently look'd upon the Goods as their own, and ſtill detain 'em in their hands refuſing to come to any Account; covering this Fraud of theirs with a Sequeſtration of *Engliſh* Goods that ſoon after enſu'd. So that he was forc'd the laſt year, in the middle of Winter, to return to *Portugal* and demand his Goods, but all in vain. For that the ſaid *John* and *Anthony* could by no fair means be perſwaded, either to deliver the ſaid Goods, or to come to any Account; and which is more to be admir'd, juſtifi'd their private detention of the Goods, by the Publick Attainder. Finding therefore that being a ſtranger, he ſhould get nothing by contending with the Inhabitants of *Tamira* in their own Countrey, he betook himſelf for Juſtice to your Majeſty; humbly demanded the judgment of the *Conſervator*, appointed to determine the Cauſes of the *Engliſh*; but was ſent back to the Cognizance of that Court, from which he had appeal'd. Which though in it ſelf not unjuſt, yet ſeeing it is evident that the Merchants of *Tamira* make an ill uſe of your Publick Edict to juſtify their own private Couzenage, we make it our earneſt requeſt to your Majeſty, that according to your wonted Clemency you would rather refer to the *Conſervator*, being the proper Judge in theſe Caſes, the Cauſe of this poor

poor Man, Afflicted by many Caſualties, and reduc'd to utmoſt Poverty; to the end he may recover the Remainder of his Fortunes from the Faithleſs Partnerſhip of thoſe People. Which, when you rightly underſtand the buſineſs, we make no queſtion, but will be no leſs pleaſing to your Majeſty, to ſee done, then to our ſelves. *From our Court at* Weſtminſter, Auguſt, 1658.

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*To the moſt Serene Prince* Leopold, *Arch-Duke, of* Auſtria, *Governour of the Low-Countries under* Philip *K. of* Spain.

*Moſt Serene Lord,*

CHarles *Harbord*, Knight, has ſet forth in his Petition to Us, that having ſent certain Goods and Houſhold-Stuff out of *Holland* to *Bruges* under your Juriſdiction, he is in great danger of having them arreſted out of his hands by Force and Violence. For that thoſe Goods, were ſent him out of *England* in the Year 1643. by the Earl of *Suffolk*, for whom he ſtood bound in a Great Sum of Money, to the end he might have wherewithal to ſatisfy himſelf, ſhould he be compell'd to pay the Debt. Which Goods are now in the Poſſeſſion of *Richard Greenville*, Knight, who broke open the doors of the place where they were in Cuſtody, and made a Violent

ſeizure of the ſame, under pretence of we know not what due to him from *Theophilus* Earl of *Suffolk*, by Vertue of a certain Decree of our Court of *Chancery*, to which thoſe Goods, as being the Earls, were juſtly liable; whereas by our Laws, neither the *Earl* now living, whoſe Goods they are, is bound by that Decree, neither ought the Goods to be ſeiz'd or detain'd; which the Sentence of that Court, now ſent to your Serenity, together with theſe Letters, poſitively declares and proves. Which Letters the ſaid *Charles Harbord* has deſir'd of us, to the end we would make it our Requeſt to your Highneſs, that the ſaid Goods may be forthwith diſcharg'd from the violent ſeizure, and no leſs unjuſt action of the ſaid *Richard Greenville*, in regard it is apparently againſt the Cuſtom and Law of Nations, that any Perſon ſhould be allow'd the liberties to ſue in a Foreign Juriſdiction upon a plaint wherein he can have no relief in the Country where the Cauſe of Action firſt aroſe. Therefore the Reaſon of Juſtice it ſelf, and your far Celebrated Enquanimity encourag'd us to recommend this Cauſe to your Highneſs. Aſſuring your Highneſs, that whenever any diſpute ſhall happen in our Courts concerning the Rights and Properties of your People, you ſhall ever find us ready

ready and quick in our Returns of Favour. *Weſtminſter* ——

Your Highneſſe's moſt Affectionate *Oliver* Protector of the Commonwealth of *England*, *&c.*

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# LETTERS

## Written in the Name of

# RICHARD Protector.

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Richard *Protector of the Commonwealth of* England, *&c. To the moſt Serene and Potent Prince,* Lewis *King of* France.

*Moſt Serene and Potent King, our Friend and Confederate.*

SO ſoon as our moſt Serene Father, Oliver *Protector of the Commonwealth of* England, by the Will of God ſo ordaining, departed this Life, upon the Third of *September*, we being Lawfully declar'd his Succeſſor in the Supream Magiſtracy, tho in the Extremity of Tears and ſadneſs, could do no leſs, then with the firſt

Opportunity by theſe our Letters make known a Matter of this Concernment to your Majeſty; by whom, as you have bin a moſt Cordial Friend to our Father and this Republick, we are Confident, the Mournful and unexpected Tydings will be as ſorrowfully received. Our buſineſs now, is to requeſt your Majeſty, that you would have ſuch an Opinion of us, as of one who has determin'd nothing more Religiouſly and conſtantly then to obſerve the Friendſhip and Confedracy, contracted between your Majeſty and our Renowned Father; and with the ſame Zeal and Good-will to confirm and Eſtabliſh the Leagues by him Concluded, and to carry on the ſame Counſels and Intereſts with your Majeſty. To which intent, it is our pleaſure that our Embaſſadour Reſiding at your Court, be empower'd by the ſame Commiſſion as formerly; and that you will give the ſame Credit to what he tranſacts in our Name, as if it had bin done by our ſelves. In the mean time we wiſh your Majeſty all Proſperity. *From our Court at* White-Hall, Septemb. 5. 1658.

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*To the moſt Eminent Lord, Cardinal* Mazarine.

THO nothing could fall out more bitter and grievous to us, then to write the Mournful News of our moſt Serene and moſt

moſt Renowned Father's Death; nevertheleſs, in regard we cannot be ignorant of the high Eſteem which he had for your Eminency, and the great Value which you had for him; nor have any reaſon to doubt, but that your Eminency, upon whoſe care the Proſperity of *France* depends, will no leſs bewail the loſs of your conſtant Friend, and moſt United Confederate, we thought it of great moment, by theſe our Letters to make known this Accident ſo deeply to be lamented, as well to your Eminency as to the King; and to aſſure your Eminency, which is but reaſon, that we ſhall moſt Religiouſly obſerve all thoſe things which our Father of moſt Serene Memory was bound by the League to ſee confirm'd and ratify'd: and ſhall make it our buſineſs, that in the midſt of your mourning for a Friend ſo Faithful and Flouriſhing in all Vertuous Applauſe, there may be nothing wanting to preſerve the Faith of our Confederacy. For the Conſervation of which on your part alſo, to the good of both Nations, may God Almighty long preſerve your Eminency. *Weſtminſter, Sept.* 1658.

Richard *Protector of the Commonwealth of* England, *&c. To the moſt Serene and Potent Prince* Charles Guſtavus, *King of the* Swedes, Goths *and* Vandalls, *&c.*

*Moſt Serene and Potent King, our Friend and Confederate.*

WHen we conſider with our ſelves that it will be a difficult matter for us, to be Imitators of our Fathers Vertues, unleſs we ſhould obſerve and endeavour to hold the ſame Confederacies which he by his proweſs acquir'd, and out of his ſingular judgment thought moſt worthy to be embrac'd and obſerv'd; your Majeſty has no reaſon to doubt, but that it behoves us to pay the ſame tribute of Affection and Good-will, which our Father of moſt Serene Memory always paid to your Majeſty. Therefore altho in this beginning of our Government and Dignity, I may not find our Affairs in that Condition, as at preſent to anſwer to ſome particulars, which your Embaſſadours have propos'd, yet it is our Reſolution to continue the League concluded by our Father with your Majeſty, and to enter our ſelves into a ſtricter Engagement; and ſo ſoon as we ſhall rightly underſtand the State of Affairs on both ſides, we ſhall always be ready on our part, to treat of thoſe things, which ſhall be moſt chiefly for the United

Benefit

Benefit of both Republicks. In the mean time God long preſerve your Majeſty to his Glory, and the Defence and Safeguard of his Orthodox Church. *From our Court at* Weſtminſter, Octob. 1658.

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Richard *Protector of the Commonwealth of* England, *&c. To the moſt Serene and Potent Prince* Charles Guſtavus, *King of the* Swedes, Goths *and* Vandalls, *&c.*

*Moſt Serene and Potent King, our Friend and Confederate.*

WE have receiv'd two Letters from your Majeſty, the one by your *Envoy*, the other tranſmitted to us from our Reſident, *Philip Meadowes*, whereby we not only underſtood your Majeſties unfaigned Grief for the Death of our moſt Serene Father, in expreſſions ſetting forth the real thoughts of your mind, and how highly your Majeſty eſteem'd his Proweſs and Friendſhip, but alſo what great hopes your Majeſty conceiv'd of our ſelves advanc'd in his Room. And certainly, as an Accumulation of Paternal Honour in deeming us worthy to Succeed him, nothing more Noble, more Illuſtrious could befal us then the judgment of ſuch a Prince; nothing more Fortunately Auſpicious could happen to Us, at our firſt entrance upon the Government, then ſuch a Congratulator;

nothing

nothing lastly that could more vehemently incite us to take possession of our Father's Vertues, as our Lawful Inheritance, then the encouragement of so Great a King. As to what concerns your Majesties Interests, already under Consideration between us, in reference to the Common Cause of the Protestants, we would have your Majesty have those thoughts of us, that since we came to the Helm of this Republick, tho the Condition of our Affairs be such at present, that they chiefly require our utmost Diligence, Care, and Vigilancy at home, yet that we hold nothing more Sacred, and that there is not any thing more determin'd by Us, then as much as in us lyes, never to be wanting to the League concluded by our Father with your Majesty. To that end, We have taken care to send a Fleet into the *Baltic* Sea, with those Instructions which our Agent, to that purpose empower'd by us, will Communicate to your Majesty; whom God preserve in long safety, and prosper with success in the Defence of his Orthodox Religion. *From our Court at* Westminster, Octob. 13. 1658.

Richard

Richard *Protector*, *To the moſt Serene, and Potent Prince*, Charles Guſtavus, *King of the* Swedes, Goths *and* Vandalls, *&c.*

*Moſt Serene and moſt Potent King, our Friend and Confederate.*

WE ſend to your Majeſty, nor could we ſend a Preſent more worthy or more Excellent, the truly Brave and truly Noble, Sir *George Aſcue*, Knight, not only fam'd in War, and more eſpecially for his Experience in Sea Affairs, approv'd and try'd in many deſperate Engagements, but alſo endu'd with ſingular Probity, Modeſty, Ingenuity, Learning, and for the ſweetneſs of his Diſpoſition careſs'd by all Men; and which is the ſum of all, now deſirous to ſerve under the Banners of your Majeſty, ſo renown'd o're all the World for your Military Proweſs. And we would have your Majeſty be fully aſſur'd, that whatſoever high Employment you confer upon him, wherein Fidelty, Fortitude, Experience, may ſhine forth in their true Luſture, you cannot entruſt a Perſon more Faithful, more Couragious, nor eaſily more Skilful. Moreover, as to thoſe things we have given him in Charge to Communicate to your Majeſty, we requeſt that he may have quick Acceſs, and favourable Audience, and that you will vouchſafe the

ſame

ſame Credit to him, as to our ſelves if perſonally preſent: laſtly that you will give him that Honour, as you ſhall judge becoming a Perſon digniſi'd with his own Merits and our Recommendation. Now God Almighty proſper all your Affairs with happy Succeſs, to his own Glory and the Safeguard of his Orthodox Church. *From our Court at* White-Hall, Octob. 1658.

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Richard *Protector of the Commonwealth of* England, *&c. To the moſt Serene and Potent Prince,* Charles Guſtavus, *King of the* Swedes, Goths *and* Vandalls, *&c.*

*Moſt Serene and Potent King, our deareſt Friend and Confederate.*

SAmuel *Piggot*, of *London*, Merchant, in a Petition deliver'd to Us, ſets forth, that he lately ſent from *London* into *France*, upon the account of Trade, two Veſſels, the one call'd the *Poſt*, *Tiddie Jacob* Maſter, the other the *Water-Dog*, *Garbrand Peters*, Maſter. That from *France*, being laden with Salt, they Sail'd for *Amſterdam*; at *Amſterdam*, they one took in Ballaſt only; the other laden with Herrings, in Copartnerſhip, with one *Peter Heinbergh*, Sail'd away for *Stettin* in *Pomerania*, which is under your Juriſdiction, there to unlade her Freight; but now he hears that both thoſe Veſſels are detain'd ſomewhere in the

*Baltick*

*Baltick* Sea by your Forces; notwithſtanding that he took care to ſend a Writing with both thoſe Ships, Seal'd with the Seal of the Admiralty-Court, by which it appear'd that he alone was the Lawful Owner of both the Veſſels and Goods, that part excepted which belong'd to *Heinbergh*. Of all which, in regard he has made full proof before us, we make it our Requeſt to your Majeſty (to prevent the Ruin and utter Shipwrack of the Poor man's Eſtate by the loſs of two Ships at one time) that you would Command your Officers to take care for the ſpeedy diſcharge of the ſaid Veſſels. God long preſerve your Majeſty to his own Glory, and the ſafeguard of his Orthodox Church.

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Richard *Protector of the Commonwealth of* England, *&c. To the High and Mighty Lords, the State of* Weſtfriezland.

*Moſt High and Mighty Lords, our Deareſt Friends and Confederates.*

*Mary Grinder* Widow, in a Petition preſented to us, has made a moſt grievous Complaint, that whereas *Thomas Killegrew*, a Commander in your Service, has ow'd her for theſe Eighteen Years a conſiderable ſum of Money, ſhe can by her Agents neither bring him to pay the ſaid Money, nor to try his Title at Law to the ſame

ſame, if he has any. Which that he may not be compell'd to do by the Widow's Attorney, he has Petition'd your Highneſſes, that no body may be ſuffer'd to ſue him for any Money that he owes in *England*. But ſhould we ſignify no more then only this to your Highneſs, That ſhe is a Widow, that ſhe is in great want, the Mother of many ſmall Children, which her Creditor endeavours to deprive of almoſt all that little ſupport they have in this World, we cannot believe, we need to make uſe of any greater Arguments to your Lordſhips, ſo well acquainted with thoſe Divine Precepts forbidding the Oppreſſion of the Widow and the Fatherleſs, to perſuade ye not to grant any ſuch privilege upon a bare Petition, to the Fraudulent Subverter of the Widow's Right: and which for the ſame reaſon we aſſure our ſelves you will never admit. *From our Court at* Weſtminſter, Jan. 27. 1658.

Richard

Richard *Protector of the Commonwealth of* England, *&c. To the moſt Serene and Potent Prince,* Lewis *King of* France.

*Moſt Serene and Potent Prince, our moſt Auguſt Confederate and Friend,*

WE have bin given to uderſtand, and that, to our no ſmall grief, That ſeveral Proteſtant Churches in *Provence*, were ſo maliciouſly Affronted and Diſturb'd by a certain turbulent Humouriſt, that the Magiſtrates at *Grenoble*, who are the proper Judges of ſuch Cauſes, thought him worthy of exemplary Puniſhment: But that the Convention of the Clergy which was held not far from thoſe places, obtain'd of your Majeſty, that the whole matter ſhould be remov'd up to *Paris*, there to be heard before your Royal Council. But they not having as yet made any determination in the Buſineſs, thoſe Churches, and more eſpecially that of *Yvoire*, are forbid to meet for the Worſhip of God. Moſt earneſtly therefore we requeſt your Majeſty, That in the firſt place you would not prohibit thoſe from Preaching in Publick, whoſe Prayers to God for your Safety and the Proſperity of your Kingdom, you are ſo free to ſuffer; then that the Sentence given againſt that impertinent Diſturber of Divine Service, by the proper Judges of thoſe Cauſes at *Grenoble*, may be duly put in ex-

cution

cution. God long preſerve your Majeſty in Safety and Proſperity; to the end that if you have any good Opinion of our Prayers, or think 'em prevalent with God, you may be ſpeedily induc'd to ſuffer the ſame to be publickly put up to Heaven by thoſe Churches, now forbid their wonted Meetings. *Weſtminſter, Feb.* 18. 1658.

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*To the moſt Eminent Lord Cardinal* Mazarine.

*Moſt Eminent Lord Cardinal,*

THE moſt Illuſtrious Lady, late Wife of the deceaſed Duke of *Richmond*, is now going into *France*, together with the young Duke her Son, with an intention to reſide there for ſome time. We therefore moſt earneſtly requeſt your Eminency, That if any thing fall out, wherein your Authority, Favour and Patronage, may be aſſiſting to 'em, as Strangers, you would vouchſafe to Protect their Dignity, and to indulge the Recommendation of it not the meaneſt, in ſuch a manner, that if any addition can be made to your Civility toward all people, eſpecially of Illuſtrious Deſcent, we may be ſenſible our Letters have obtain'd it. Withal, your Excellency may aſſure your ſelf, your Recommendation, whenever you require the like from us, ſhall be of equal force and value in our Eſteem and Care. *Weſtminſter, Feb.* 29. 1658. Richard

Richard *Protector of the Commonwealth of* England, *&c. To the moſt Serene and Potent Prince,* John *King of* Portugal.

*Moſt Serene and Potent Prince, our Friend and Confederate,*

ALthough there are many things which we are bound to impart by Writing to a King our Friend, and in ſtrict Confederacy with our Republick, yet there is nothing which we ever did more willingly, then what we do at this preſent, by theſe our Letters to Congratulate this laſt Victory, ſo glorious to the Kingdom of *Portugal*, obtain'd againſt our common Enemy the *Spaniard*. By which, how great an advantage will accrue not onely to your own, but to the Peace and Repoſe of all *Europe*, and that perhaps for many years, there is no body but underſtands. But there is one thing more, wherein we muſt acknowledge your Majeſty's Juſtice, the moſt certain pledge of Victory, That ſatisfaction has bin given by the Commiſſioners appointed at *London*, according to the 24th. Article of the League, to our Merchants, whoſe Veſſels were hir'd by the *Braſile* Company. Onely there is one among 'em ſtill remaining, *Alexander Bence*, of *London* Merchant, whoſe Ship call'd the *Three Brothers*, *John Wilks* Maſter, being hir'd and laden, and having perform'd two

Voyages

Voyages for the ſaid Company, yet ſtill they refuſe to pay him his Wages according to their Covenauts; when the reſt that onely perform'd ſingle Voyages are already paid. Which why it ſhould be done, we cannot underſtand; unleſs thoſe People think, in their Judgment, that Perſon more worthy of his Hire, who did 'em onely ſingle Service, then he who earn'd his Wages twice. We therefore earneſtly requeſt your Majeſty, That Satisfaction may given for his Service truly perform'd, to this ſame ſingle *Alexander*, to whom a double Stipend is due; and that by Vertue of your Royal Authority you would prefix the *Braſile* Company as ſhort a day as may be, for the payment of his juſt due, and repairing his Loſſes; ſeeing that their delays have bin the occaſion, that the Loſs ſuſtain'd by the Merchant, has very near exceeded the Money it ſelf which is owing for his Wages. So God continue your Majeſty's proſperous Succeſſes againſt the common Enemy. *From our Court at* Weſtm. Feb. 23. 1658.

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Richard *Protector of the Commonwealth of* England, *&c. To the moſt Eminent Lord Cardinal* Mazarin.

*Moſt Eminent Lord,*

BY Letters to your Eminency, about Eight Months ſince, dated *June* 13. we recom-

commended to your *Eminency* the Cauſe of *Peter Pet*, a Perſon of ſingular Probity, and in all Naval Sciences moſt uſeful both to us and our Republick. His Ship, call'd the *Edward*, in the year 1646. as we formerly Wrote, was taken in the Mouth of the *Thames*, by one *Baſcon*, and Sold in the Port of *Boulogne*; and tho the King in his Royal Council, the 4th. of *November* 1647. decreed, That what Money the Council ſhould think fitting to be given in Recompence of the Loſs, ſhould be forthwith paid in ſatisfaction to the Owner: Nevertheleſs, as he ſets forth, he could never reap the benefit of that Order. Now in regard we make no queſtion, but that your Eminency, at our deſire, gave ſtrict Command for the ſpeedy Execution of that Decree; we make it therefore our renew'd requeſt, That you would vouchſafe to examine where the impediment lies, or through whoſe neglect or contumacy it came to paſs, that in Ten years time the King's decree was not obey'd; and employ your Authority ſo effectually, that the Money then Decreed, which we thought long ſince ſatisfi'd, may be ſpeedily demanded and paid to our Petitioner. Thus your Eminency will perform an Act moſt grateful to Juſtice, and lay moreover a ſingular Obligation upon our ſelves. *From our Court at* Weſtm. Feb. 25. 1658.

The

## The two following Letters, after the Depoſal of *Richard*, were Written in the Name of the Parliament Reſtor'd.

*The Parliament of the Commonwealth of* England, *&c. To the moſt Serene and Potent Prince,* Charles Guſtavus, *King of the* Swedes, Goths *and* Vandalls, *&c.*

*Moſt Serene and Potent King, our Deareſt Friend,*

SInce it has pleas'd the moſt merciful and Omnipotent God, at whoſe Diſpoſal only the Revolutions of all Kingdoms and Republicks are, to reſtore us to our Priſtin Authority, and the Supream Adminiſtration of the *Engliſh* Affairs, we thought it convenient in the firſt place to make it known to your Majeſty, and to ſignify moreover as well our Extraordinary Affection to your Majeſty, ſo Potent a Proteſtant Prince, as alſo our moſt fervent Zeal to promote the Peace between your Majeſty and the King of *Denmark*, another moſt powerful Proteſtant King, not to be reconcil'd without our Aſſiſtance and the good Offices of our Affection. Our Pleaſure therefore is, that our Extraordinary Envoy, *Philip Meadowes*, be continued in the ſame Employment with your Majeſty,

with

with which he has bin hitherto entruſted from this Republick. To which end, we impower him by theſe our Letters to make Propoſals, act and negotiate with your Majeſty, in the ſame manner as was granted him by his laſt Recommendations: and whatſoever he ſhall tranſact and conclude in our Name, we faithfully promiſe and and engage, by Gods Aſſiſtance, to Confirm and Ratify. The ſame God long ſupport your Majeſty the Pillar and Support of the Proteſtant Intereſts. *Weſtminſter, May*, 15. 1659.

*William Lenthal*, Speaker of the Parliament of the Commonwealth of *England*.

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*The Parliament of the Commonwealth of* England, *&c. To the moſt Serene Prince*, Frederick *King of* Denmark.

*Moſt Serene King and moſt Dear Friend,*

SEeing it now is come to paſs, that by the Will and Pleaſure of the moſt merciful and powerful God, the Supream Moderator of all things, we are reſtor'd to our Priſtin Place and Dignity, in the Adminiſtration of the Publick Affairs, we thought it convenient in the firſt place that a Revolution of this Government ſhould not be conceal'd from your Majeſties notice,

a Prince

a Prince both our Neighbour and Confederate; and withal, to signify, how much we lay to Heart your ill Success: which you will easily perceive by our Zeal and Diligence, that never shall be wanting in us to promote and accomplish a Reconciliation between your Majesty and the King of *Sweden*. And therefore we have Commanded our Extraordinary Envoy with the most Serene King of *Sweden*, *Philip Medows*, to attend your Majesty, in our Name, in order to these matters, and to impart, propound, act and negotiate such things as we have given him in charge to Communicate to your Majesty: and what credit you shall give to him in this his Employment, we request your Majesty to believe it given to our selves. God Almighty grant your Majesty a happy and joyful deliverance out of all your difficulties, and afflicting Troubles under which you stand so undauntedly supported by your Fortitude and Magnanimity. *Westminster*, *May*, 15. 1659.

*William Lenthal*, Speaker of the Parliament of the Commonwealth of *England*.

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*The End.*